

THE TIMES

Tomorrow

Soft soaping
Aaron Spelling, king of
the soap opera *Dynasty*
talks about his TV
successes and the appeal
of Joan Collins



Working wife
As James Prior prepares
to leave Northern
Ireland,
Jane Prior talks about
her role there

Furry fury
Bernard Levin puts the
bite on the liberators
of caged mink

Taking a dive
How good will the
women's
swimming be at the
Olympics
with the East Germans
out of the race?

Portfolio

A retired banker won yesterday's £2,000 Times Portfolio competition. Mr Victor Jenner, of Gurney Slade, Bath, has been a reader of The Times since 1930 when the newspaper began the regular publication of the crossword.

Portfolio list, page 14, how to play, information service, back page.

Jaguar to be sold next month

Jaguar, the BL subsidiary, will be sold to the public next month, under the Government privatization programme at a price which values the business at £297m. New profit figures of £43m so far this year show the company continues to benefit from the strong dollar and good US sales. Page 15

Drugs inquiry

The circulation and use of hard drugs in Britain is to be investigated by the Commons Select Committee on Home Affairs after Parliament's summer recess. Heroin abuse, page 3

NHS cost lapse

The Commons Public Accounts Committee criticized the "lamentable" failure to achieve large available economies in the cost of supplies to the National Health Service. Page 2

UK in dock

The new European Parliament in Strasbourg began where it left off in May, hearing all-round condemnations of British attitudes over the European budget. Page 6

German deal

A £250m loan for East Germany raised by West German banks is expected to lead to relaxation of travel restrictions between the two countries. Page 6

Pardon sought

Geoffrey Davis, formerly Mycock, aged 38, freed after serving 16 years of a life sentence for murder has said he will not stop until he secures a pardon. Page 3

Leader page 11

Letters. On education cuts, from Mr R. W. Stiles; homeless in London, from Dr Richard Stone and others; aid for Ethiopia, from Mrs Mary Dines.

Leading articles: Rate-capping; Hongkong; Poland

Features, pages 8, 10

Poet's choice for Poet Laureate

Lord Gower on an efficiency drive in the Civil Service; the hand-to-mouth struggle of scientific research. Profile: decahite Daley Thompson. Books, page 9

James Fenton on Christopher Hill; Robert Nye reviews C. H. Sisson and Samuel Beckett; Nicholas Shakespeare on short stories by Peter Tinniswood and others; Patricia Dickinson on Charles Mew.

Obituary, page 12

Professor S. B. Chirines, Major-General Dev Day. Classified, pages 21 to 26

La crème de la crème; Super Seas; appointments.

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£800m Coal Board loss includes only 3 weeks of strike

By Paul Routledge, Industrial Editor

The National Coal Board will today announce a record deficit of more than £800m for the last financial year, which included only the first three weeks of the miners' strike.

The deficit, which will be met by a grant within the board's £1,200m external finance limit, is not far off double the comparable £485m figure for 1983-84.

But the board will almost certainly be able to point out that the industry has remained just within the borrowing and spending limit set by the Government - only achieved because the long pit strike has halted much badly-needed investment.

Changes in the accountancy procedure mean that the industry is not obliged to show a separate deficit grant and loss figure - £374m and £111m respectively in the previous financial year. Instead there is expected to be a consolidated grant deficit substantially higher than £800m.

The figures are likely to be seized upon by leaders of the National Union of Mineworkers as fresh evidence that their industrial action is costing the industry and the nation dear. The period under review

ended on March 31 this year, when the coal mines had been subject to a 19-week overtime ban, and most coalfields had been on strike for up to three weeks.

The total cost of the strike subsequently has been estimated variously at £1,000m by City stockbrokers and at £3,500m by Mr Arthur Scargill, the miners' union president. Whatever the final tally, much of that cost will be borne eventually by the coal board when the strike is over and the bills come rolling in.

The board is to undertake a critical reappraisal of its strategy to beat the strike if, as seems certain, the union national executive today confirms the rejection by its negotiators of the board's latest pay offer.

The offer will be withdrawn, and the board's reassessment will look at some tough new options to achieve its original objectives of closing four million tonnes of "uneconomic" capacity, with the loss of 20,000 jobs by voluntary redundancy.

Mr Ian MacGregor, the coal board chairman, may decide to go to the Government for changes in the redundancy regulations so that men still on

strike can qualify for substantial lump-sum payments. Miners who want to go could then begin leaving the industry, and that might contribute to breaking the resolve of those still on strike.

It is now accepted that the chairman's idea of a secret pit-head ballot conducted by the board is a non-starter, and it has been shelved. But the board will continue with its advertising campaign, buying space in local newspapers which circulate in the mining community to appeal to strikers to go back to their jobs.

Heavy advertising in popular national newspapers this week has so far had very little effect. The drift back to work already evident in some traditionally moderate areas has continued but three-quarters of the pits remain strike-bound.

There is also political pressure from some Conservative backbenchers for the Board to act directly and close pits without consultation, after the breakdown of talks with the union last week aimed at producing a joint agreement on criteria for the closure of collieries which do not have reserves capable of being "beneficially" worked.

Miners may accept TUC aid

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

There were indications last night that the Trades Union Congress may soon be involved in the pit strike, a development which so far has been strongly resisted by the leadership of the National Union of Mineworkers.

A change in the union's attitude to TUC involvement is likely to be broached by the NUM executive in Sheffield today when its meeting will hear a renewed offer from the TUC to give at least financial assistance to alleviate hardship.

NUM leaders have been reluctant to agree to any involvement of the TUC in the 20-week strike because of a fear that Congress House would seek to take control of the strike and dissipate the militant strategy now being adopted.

But after yesterday's meeting of the TUC General Council in London senior union officials were hopeful that the miners would change their minds.

Any tentative move towards accepting the offer will be set alongside the likelihood that the miners' dispute will become the centrepiece of the annual TUC congress in Brighton in September.

Strike reports, page 2

The NUM, along with several other unions, has tabled a strongly-worded motion to be debated at Congress which calls on the Labour and trade union movement to be fully mobilized behind the miners' strike against pit closures. The motion closely mirrors a resolution tabled by the union for October's Labour Party conference which calls on delegates to pay "tribute to the historic struggle of the miners in 1984".

It attempts also to win from the Labour Party a wholehearted commitment to the Plan for Coal and an integrated

energy policy based on an expanding and healthy coal industry.

Opinions among senior union leaders differ on the scale and type of assistance to be given the miners. But, if NUM resistance is softened, the TUC could be expected to organize a big fund to channel money and relief to miners' families. Senior figures in the TUC were not expecting any immediate decision on whether the approach and progress was likely to be cautious.

Members of the TUC general council yesterday called on the Prime Minister to withdraw her statement that unions involved in the present industrial unrest were the "enemy within".

They agreed that the remark, made by Mrs Thatcher to a meeting of backbench Conservative MPs last week, was grossly offensive and insulting and argued that the Government's failed economic policies were the real enemy.



Sarah Brigham, aged 13, from Norwich, is among 233 children taking part in the Royal Academy of Dancing children's summer school this month (Photograph: Chris Harris).

Threat of 17-hour water cuts

New drought measures in the South West Water Authority area will mean rota cuts of at least 17 hours a day for a million consumers.

The authority, which held an emergency board meeting in Plymouth yesterday, is seeking government permission under the Drought Act to implement the cuts on August 9 from 2pm to 7am, unless consumers achieve a 50 per cent reduction in demand.

Many reservoirs and rivers in the region are at less than 50 per cent capacity and some are below the levels of the 1976 drought.

Ironically, a severe storm brought chaos to Portsmouth as 1.6in of rain fell. Firemen attended 131 emergency calls in four hours.

Kinnock beats left over reselection

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Mr Neil Kinnock yesterday comfortably secured the victory in Labour's national executive committee on the question of how Labour MPs should be reselected, an issue which in recent days had become an important test of the effectiveness of his leadership.

In a series of three votes his supporters, polled their full strength, winning each by a margin of 15 to 12. Two other supporters from the trade union section, Mr Alex Kison of the transport workers, and Mr Charles Turnock of the railwaymen, were not needed. But Mr Kinnock's camp accurately claimed that a full turnout would have produced a 17 to 12 margin.

Afterwards Mr Eric Heffer, chairman of the party, a leading opponent of the Kinnock plan, who failed in an attempt from the chair to prevent a decision, attacked the press for damaging Labour by giving the debate so much attention.

He seemed equally angered by the decision to change the rules governing reselection, predicting further unnecessary arguments in the party. "We have got this woman (the Prime Minister) by the throat, and here we are kicking through our own goal once again," he said.

The change, which will now go to the annual conference in October with every prospect of being agreed, will allow constituency parties to ballot every full member in the question of whether a sitting MP should be reselected or discarded.

At present the decision is left to local management committees, which are often unrepresentative of their members' wishes and are not bound by them.

Mr Kinnock, whose speech in the executive was said to have been sensible and conciliatory, said afterwards that there was wide support for the principle of extending democracy to Labour's rank-and-file. He did not expect a battle at annual conference.

The executive also endorsed the statement on defence policy, prepared by a working party drawn from the executive and parliamentary party members, which takes the party further than before towards pure unilateralism.

It recommends Labour to the Commons on back page, col 4

S Africans and Swapo hold ceasefire talks

South Africa and Swapo, the guerrilla organization fighting for the independence of south African-occupied Namibia, met on the Cape Verde Islands yesterday in their first direct talks on a possible ceasefire (Michael Hornsby writes from Johannesburg).

The South African delegation was led by Dr Willie van Niekerk, Administrator-General of Namibia, and the Swapo team by the organization's President, Mr Sam Nujoma.

Delegations from the United States and Angola were reported to have attended as observers.

Pretoria's hopes, page 6

Tebbit orders warship builders to be sold

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The Government yesterday ordered state-owned British Shipbuilders, which recorded its worst ever trading loss of £161m last year, to privatise the nation's warship yards by the end of March 1986.

Despite the embarrassment of recent denationalization flops, notably Enterprise Oil, Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, has imposed a tight scale on the corporation and told the Commons he wanted to see substantial progress with the sale within the next eight months.

The warship yards, which made profits of £44m last year compared with merchant ship-building losses of £49m, form the most saleable part of BS, but the Government is maintaining an open mind about the form the sale should take.

A few hours after Mr Graham Day, the BS chairman, launched his first annual report and described the corporation

as "leaner and meaner". Mr Tebbit said that to secure the maximum practical extent of fair competition, the sale of the warship yards separately or in small groups was preferred.

But he had also asked the corporation to prepare contingency plans for a Stock Exchange flotation in case individual sales were not achieved.

He added: "I believe that this will enable the corporation to pursue single-mindedly their aims for their merchant ship-building business and to take the steps to improve efficiency on which their long-term future depends, while providing an assured competitive warship-building capacity."

The warship division, which employs 25,700 of the 48,500 BS workers, comprises the nuclear submarine company Vickers at Barrow-in-Furness, Vosper Thornycroft (UK) at Portsmouth and Southampton. Continued on back page, col 2

Prior likely to quit Ulster in September

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Mr James Prior is likely to leave his job as Secretary of State for Northern Ireland in the first two weeks of September as a result of a limited Cabinet reshuffle.

He would leave the province almost three years since his reluctant arrival and government sources predict that he will happily retire to the backbenches after years as a senior party spokesman both in and out of office.

Late September and early October may also be possible departure times for Mr Prior but sources believe Mrs Margaret Thatcher will want to give any new Secretary of State time to have "bedded down" in the job before having to face a party conference from October 9 to 12.

It is widely expected that if Mr Prior returns to the backbenches he will take up posts in industry. He has a directorship within United Biscuits but,

having served in senior positions in Mrs Thatcher's governments, more substantial offers are likely from other companies wishing to have his name and experience on their notepaper.

He has a farm in Suffolk, managed by one of his three sons, Simon, and a cottage in Hampshire where he is involved in a new farming venture.

Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, has been mentioned as a possible successor to Mr Prior but he is now thought an unlikely choice as such a move might be construed as a vote of no confidence in his handling of the miners' dispute.

Sir George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, has also been mentioned, as have Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State at the Home Office, and Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister for Information Technology at the Department of Trade and Industry.

Barbara Hepworth bronzes vanish in the night

From Peter Davenport Wakefield

Police alerted air and sea ports yesterday after the theft of five larger-than-life bronze figures created by the late Barbara Hepworth, the British sculptor.

They were stolen from a hilltop site in the Yorkshire sculpture park set in 260 acres of grounds around Bretton Hall, West Bretton, near Wakefield, a former eighteenth century mansion now run as a higher education centre.

The figures, part of a group of nine entitled "Family of Man" had been on permanent loan to the park since 1980 and were regarded as one of the artist's most important works. They are insured for about £100,000, but their artistic value is incalculable.

Mrs Chris Cowen, the sculpture park supervisor, said yesterday: "They are irreplaceable and the theft is absolutely tragic."

"Perhaps the people who have stolen them don't realize what they really have and will telephone us or the police and say where they can be found."



The nine-strong "Family of Man": Stolen are Youth (second left), Parent (third left), The Bride (fourth left), Bridgroom (sixth left), and Young Girl (far right).

We just hope they haven't already been melted down for their scrap value."

The "family of man" figures were among 30 permanent exhibits at the park, including Henry Moore's "Knife-Edge", but this week three exhibitions

running at the centre have increased the works of art on open-air show to almost 300.

The theft was discovered early yesterday by Mr Chris Bailey, aged 23, a charge hand at the park, making his regular rounds.

The stolen pieces are: Young Girl (67.5in high), Bridgroom (102in), Bride (94in), Parent (105in), Youth (76in) and part of a sixth figure, Ancestor 2.

The group was originally cast in 1970 by Barbara Hepworth, who was born in Wakefield but

lived for more than 30 years in St Ives, Cornwall, and there was a limited edition of six sets.

Mr Brian Smith, curator of the Barbara Hepworth Museum in St Ives, now run by the Tate Gallery after the artist's family bequeathed it to the nation, said last night: "The set in Yorkshire was the only complete set in the world outside America. The loss is tragic."

Police believe that the gang drove a lorry into the park in the early hours of Tuesday morning and worked undiscovered for several hours to load the sculptures. Although the works are, in sections they are heavy, some weighing 23cwt, and would have been difficult to manhandle.

Detectives and sculpture park officials consider the thieves could have had one of three motives: to steal for scrap value, to steal a large amount of bronze for a specific purpose, or to steal works of art of order.

The Yorkshire sculpture park last night offered a £5,000 reward for information leading to the return of the figures.

January start for TV in Lords

By Philip Webster Political Reporter

Television coverage of the House of Lords is expected to start next January for an experimental period of six months.

The BBC and Independent Broadcasting Authority, who will be paying almost the whole cost of the experiment, will be allowed to select the occasions when they wish to televise the proceedings and they will share equipment.

Four cameras are to be installed and 12-man production teams will work in the House on the days chosen for coverage.

The Committee on Sound Broadcasting, which was instructed by the Lords last December to consider how an experiment should be conducted, finalized its report last night. It will be published on August 1.

It has decided that during the experimental period there should be few restrictions on the broadcasters. They will be allowed in on a "drive-in" basis. The Lords, however, anxious not to upstage the Commons, will not allow the televising of important Government statements which are just being repeated in the Lords by junior ministers after being delivered in the Commons.

The report of the committee, chaired by Lord Aberdare, will be debated by the Lords in October or November when the final go ahead is expected to be given. After the decisive majority in favour of televising last December's ministerial statements, it is likely that the committee will be called on to consider the implications for a permanent system. Ministers expect the example of the Lords to be followed by the Commons, as it has in the past.

If peers are televised, it is felt, pressure from MPs is bound to grow. Last November the Commons gave its first outright vote in favour of televising when there was a 164-159 majority for Mr Austin Mitchell's private member's Bill.

After the experiment peers will consider its operation, and it is likely that the committee will be called on to consider the implications for a permanent system. Ministers expect the example of the Lords to be followed by the Commons, as it has in the past.

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Disaffected Anglican joins Greek Orthodox

Father William Ledwich, the Hereford priest who resigned from the Church of England in protest at the consecration of Professor David Jenkins as Bishop of Durham, is joining the Greek Orthodox Church.

Father Ledwich, aged 38, who is chaplain of the Hereford Cathedral School, said yesterday: "I shall continue teaching Divinity at the school until the end of the year, but will then hopefully have a new job and join the Greek Orthodox Church, which I now regard as the truest manifestation of Christianity."

Ordained 10 years ago, Father Ledwich said that he was alarmed by the spread of radical opinion among church leaders.

£80 fine for 'charioteer'

It looked like a scene from Ben Hur, the night two police cars chased Henry Corker on his horse and cart. Policemen stared in amazement as Mr Corker, a trader, charged through a two-car roadblock.

Standing in the two-wheeled cart like a charioteer, he steered his brown and white mare, Sally, through a six-foot gap. Sheffield magistrates were told yesterday. They fined Mr Corker, aged 40, £80 after he admitted being drunk in charge of a horse and carriage and driving furiously so as to endanger the life of any passenger.

Man tried to frame colleague

Stuart Carter, a civil servant aged 41, of Ophit Road, Worthing, West Sussex, was jailed for a year, all but six weeks suspended, at Lewes Crown Court yesterday, after he was found guilty of intending to pervert the course of justice.

Mr Richard Brown, for the prosecution, said Carter became infatuated with a woman who worked with him. He planted his wallet in her car and reported it stolen, so that she might turn to him for help.

WPC's £55,000



WPC Yvonne Fletcher, aged 25, who was fatally shot outside the Libyan people's bureau in London in April while policing a demonstration, left £73,823 gross. £55,318 net. She died intestate.

Plea to Europe on York Minster

The European Parliament has been asked to set up an inquiry into the destruction by fire of part of York Minster, and to provide money for its restoration.

Mr Edward McMillan-Scott, European MP for York, said he had received an encouraging response from M Pierre Pflimlin, President of the European Parliament, to his proposals, which aim to establish a European code of practice for protecting historic buildings.

Climbers verdict

The Gloucester district coroner, Mr Russell Jessop, yesterday recorded verdicts of accidental death on two climbers, Mr Adrian Wadlow, aged 35, of Livingstone Road, Teignmouth, and Miss Ruth Alty, aged 24, of Shebrook Road, Crediton, both Devon, who fell from Wintour's Leap, near Chepstow, on June 16.

Overseas selling prices
Australia 25c 20c, Belgium 10c 10c, Canada 25c 20c, France 25c 20c, Germany 25c 20c, Greece 25c 20c, Ireland 25c 20c, Italy 25c 20c, Japan 25c 20c, Korea 25c 20c, New Zealand 25c 20c, Norway 25c 20c, Portugal 25c 20c, Spain 25c 20c, Sweden 25c 20c, Switzerland 25c 20c, Taiwan 25c 20c, Thailand 25c 20c, USA 25c 20c, USSR 25c 20c, Yugoslavia 25c 20c.

'Lamentable' failure to cut cost of NHS supplies, MPs' committee reports

By Richard Evans

A Commons public spending watchdog yesterday criticized the "lamentable" failure, stretching back 30 years, to achieve large available economies in the cost of supplies to the National Health Service.

In England alone, savings of at least £60m a year could be gained by a better managed and more efficient system of buying equipment for hospitals.

But four years after the Government set up the Health Service Supply Council, which decided to overhaul the entire supplies system, annual savings of only £10m have been obtained, the all-Party Accounts Committee says in a report.

"The slow progress in securing available economies in the cost of health service supplies represents a significant missed opportunity", the MPs say.

"Our disappointment at the slow progress is underlined by the stark admission by the Department of Health and Social Security that it is very frustrating for the health service

to appear to go on for so long without ever achieving significant savings. It is lamentable that nearly 30 years of efforts by the health service we are virtually starting from the beginning."

The Conservative-dominated committee is so concerned about the failure to achieve economies that it has decided to investigate the issue again next year to see what progress has been made.

Health service supplies in England, Wales, and Scotland, excluding medicines prescribed by family doctors, cost £1,800m two years ago.

The main reasons for wasted money have been identified as too many small value orders, uneconomic stores and distribution centres, excessive stock levels, and too much variety in essentially identical items.

In an attempt to improve the procurement system, the supply council decided to "start completely afresh" and introduce a new organization structure for

an efficient supply service. But health authorities agreed to the new arrangements only last year.

The new budgeting techniques and cost consciousness forced on Whitehall as part of the Prime Minister's financial management initiative have so far had only patchy results, according to the latest progress report, published yesterday as a White Paper (David Walker writes).

It shows that very few departments have made the all-important link between tight budgeting on administrative costs and the annual process by which departments bid for public spending, the so-called public expenditure survey.

According to the paper, only the Northern Ireland Office and the Scottish Office have made the connection.

Progress in Financial Management in Government Departments (Command Paper 9297, Stationery Office, £6.50).

Space defence 'key to arms control'

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

A space-based defensive system missile attack would offer the prospect of replacing a strategy of mutually assured destruction with one of mutually assured survival, a former director of United States military intelligence said yesterday.

General Daniel Graham, who is one of the leading American supporters of President Reagan's strategic defence initiative, was addressing a conference organized by Aims of Industry in London.

He said that the West had to "get off the treadmill where the only response to an increase in the Soviet threat was to increase its own offensive capability."

He denied that a space-based defensive system could destabilize the balance between the US and the Soviet Union and make arms reductions more difficult to achieve. "The day we field a system that makes long-range ballistic missiles less usable is the day we can hope to reduce their numbers."

He said that an anti-missile system, part of which would be based in space, would protect Europe as well as the US. He could see no advantage in the

present position in which the senior member of the alliance was "totally vulnerable" to a missile attack.

It has been claimed that an anti-missile defence could be developed that would be 95 per cent effective. Mr Edward I. Gerry, a scientist who is closely involved in the Pentagon's work on anti-missile systems, said a "completely leak-proof defence" was not possible, but neither was it necessary.

"It simply has to be good enough so that an offensive planner cannot be confident that sufficient of his missiles will get through to serve any useful purpose. That is defensive deterrence."

The US is thought to have "space" spy satellites hidden in deep space to provide instant replacements for those destroyed by the Soviet Union, it is claimed in a book published yesterday.

The first cold war in space is already being fought in the form of an "espionage satellite conflict high over the globe", Christopher Dobson and Ronald Payne write in *The Dictionary of Espionage*.

£9m raised by 12 universities

By Colin Hughes

Twelve universities have raised more than £9m through appeals for contributions from former students, trusts, and industrialists, a report published next month shows.

A working party of university administrators surveyed 34 universities and university colleges to find that 18 had launched or were about to launch appeals to raise private funds.

The sums raised, however, were tiny when compared with the level of public needs to support universities. The Government wants the universities to raise about £130m from private sources, against public spending of £1,350m on universities.

Aberdeen heads the appeal league, having raised £2.1m since 1982 from alumni, industry and trusts.

The London School of Economics, which raised £1.3m when it became the first institution to take up appeals in 1973, has raised another £1.5m. The report, entitled *Boosting University Income*, says that only Oxford and Cambridge could be expected to raise anything approaching 10 per cent of their funds from private donations.

Mr John Kelly, convenor of the Conference of University Administrators working party, said yesterday that it would take two generations and significant tax changes to persuade individuals and companies to contribute on the scale normal in America.

MPs report illegal subsidies

By Hugh Clayton

The Government had failed to notice illegal subsidies abroad which threatened the livelihood of British farmers, the Commons Select Committee on Agriculture said yesterday.

It criticized "a certain lack of urgency" by the Ministry of Agriculture, which said it was considering the committee's report.

The MPs on the select committee said they were surprised at the low level of policing of subsidies. British chicken and turkey farmers have complained for years about being undercut by foreign competitors who benefit from hidden subsidies from their governments.

Although such subsidies were often against EEC rules, the MPs were surprised to find that the European Commission depended for information on the goodwill of the Governments that paid the money.

"The existence of such aids would often be discovered through the press", Commons Agriculture Committee Second Report, Commons Paper 539 (Stationery Office, £3.50).



Plea for science: Mrs Margaret Thatcher meeting schoolgirls yesterday and addressing them to follow her example as a scientist.

Street. Th bus is spearheading a drive to encourage schoolgirls to consider careers in engineering and science.

She is shown (above) being guided by Jill Reynolds, aged 11, from Bedfordshire.

Miners' dispute

Strike strains union's cash reserves

By Paul Routledge

Labour Editor

The heated political debate about how long coal stocks can last in the pit strike has obscured the issue of whether the cash reserves of the National Union of Mineworkers can withstand a winter siege.

The NUM is not a particularly wealthy union by the standards of the Labour movement. Its general fund stood at just below £4.8m when the dispute began and, had the union paid £15 a week strike benefit (as the new social security laws assume), it would

have been bankrupt in a fortnight.

But that is not the full picture. The NUM is still fundamentally a federation. The areas are unions in their own right, and some are very wealthy. Stocks of cash "at the pit head", the Sheffield headquarters of the union, are therefore lower than distributed cash stocks in the coalfields. The areas probably have five times more cash than the assets of the national union.

Yorkshire, for instance, declared a general fund of £7m in its 1983 annual report to the Certification Officer, and it is

digging deep to finance the biggest "flying picket" operation ever seen in Britain. The weekly cost of sending out thousands of men into neighbouring coalfields is £80,000 to £90,000.

The expenditure on picketing tells us something about the NUM's priorities. The union nationally is giving Yorkshire £16,000 a week "hardship" money to meet the cost of looking after 55,000 strikers and their families. Lancashire gets £4,000 to feed its 5,000, and other strike-bound coalfields benefit pro rata.

It is estimated that the union

has been given about £5m in cash and kind by the public, political supporters and other sections of the labour movement since the strike began. A move will be made today, at the NUM executive meeting, for a more generous treatment of strikers from central funds. Psychologically, it could be a powerful boost to the dispute if the strings of the Sheffield purse are loosened.

Mr Denis Murphy, secretary of the Northumberland miners, the only area to hold a ballot that went in favour of industrial action, will lead the "spend, spend, spend" camp.

Most support to the miners are Sogat '82, the printing union, which has donated at least £300,000, according to Mr Edward O'Brien, national officer. Leeds and Birmingham branches, he said, are donating £1,000 a week and food lorries are being regularly sent to mining areas.

The Transport and General Workers' Union estimates that more than £100,000 has been given nationally by its members, of which £30,000 has come from central funds.

Aslef, the train drivers' union, has contributed £60,000 and the National Union of Public Employees £61,000.

Food vouchers and lorries keep miners off breadline

By Richard Dowden

Starvation is not a prospect facing the miners. An extensive and increasingly well organized food distribution system has been built up which, with the welfare services, is keeping most families above the breadline.

Banks, building societies, and gas and electricity boards are being understanding in postponing payments for families of striking miners.

It is not clear how much material assistance the miners have received from organizations and individuals.

Eight weeks ago the National Union of Mineworkers said it was more than £5m. A spokesman for the union said yesterday

that support was magnificent, but there was still great hardship among miners' families.

Some Labour-controlled councils have given grants to miners' hardship funds in their areas, but these are being challenged by opposition parties as a misuse of funds. Several Conservative groups have threatened to report the matter to the district auditors.

Tyne and Wear Metropolitan Council, for example, set up a fund to help miners for £100,000. Only £900 was raised from the public but nearly the whole £100,000 has been distributed in the form of £4 food vouchers.

Durham County Council, which has given £75,000, has kept its school kitchens open throughout the strike to provide meals for the children. Northumberland County Council and other authorities in the area have followed suit.

South Yorkshire has a £100,000 donation from Sheffield City Council for its hardship fund. Yesterday that was being distributed in the form of £65 food vouchers redeemable in supermarkets.

Councils are also able to help through clothing grants to children, giving meeting and storage places and arranging rent rebates.

Among the unions giving

New law to control water pollution

By Tony Samstag

The Government yesterday took what it termed "a major step in the control of water pollution in Britain" and brought into force a section of the Control of Pollution Act 1974 just six days before the tenth anniversary of its passage through Parliament.

Part II of the Act extends controls to all estuaries, coastal waters and some underground waters and injects an element of public accountability into the process of pollution control.

In a year a system of registers will be open to public inspection recording discharges of potential pollutants, monitoring data, and actions taken by (or against) the various water authorities in order to maintain or improve water standards, Mr William Waldegrave, Parliamentary Under Secretary at the Department of the Environment, said.

The legislation also opens the way to prosecution by individuals or by pressure groups. Mr Waldegrave said the Government was "inviting pressure" from those concerned with the quality of water.

With immediate effect, new sewage or trade effluent discharges to coastal waters would require consent.

Air Pollution: House of Lords Select Committee on the European Communities. Session 1983-84, 22nd report (House of Lords Paper 265, Stationery Office, £9.90).



Sam's feast: London Zoo's youngest sealion, Sam, aged seven weeks, being fed on liquidized herring, double cream, and vitamins by Andy Saul, a keeper. Sam is one of two sealions recently born at the zoo. (Photograph: Barry Beattie).

Prisoner petitions Parliament

By Anthony Bervin

Political Correspondent

Anthony James Rice, an inmate of Dartmoor Prison, wants to be excused working on mail bags, and he has directly petitioned Parliament for help in his cause.

His position, which took up two pages of yesterday's *Vote*, the daily parliamentary paper, said that after an accident and two operations at Bristol Royal Infirmary, his right thumb was numb and he was unable to get to grips with the bags.

On arrival at Bristol Prison, he had been told he would have to work in the mail bag shop. He told prison staff about his thumb and was sent to see the doctor, who sent him to see the Senior Medical Officer, who checked with the Royal Infirmary surgeon and then agreed that Mr Rice was unfit for sewing.

Then he was transferred to Dartmoor, where the doctor said: "You can sew".

Mr Rice complains that he saw the deputy governor earlier this month, but had received no reply. He says that he regards his treatment as a breach of Article 3 of the Conventions of the European Court of Human Rights: "No one shall be subjected to torture or to inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment."

He says: "I am now having to try and sew left-handed which is extremely difficult when you are 40 years of age and have been right-handed for 40 years."

Mr Rice points out that there can be no question of malingering. "I have even earned top money on sewing mail bags on previous sentences", he says.

The petition has now been submitted to the Home Office for reply, and it is the convention that the Home Secretary should respond.

Tory councils upset at rates targets

By Our Local Government Correspondent

Two Conservative leaders of county councils said yesterday that they were dissatisfied with the Government's target settlement for next year.

Mr Roger Parker-Jervis, leader of Buckinghamshire council, said: "I am quarrelling with a target which is most unjust." Mrs Emily Blatch, leader of Cambridgeshire council, said: "It still leaves us in an unbelievably tight situation for next year."

Their complaints illustrated the difficult balancing act in which ministers had tried to give more to the shires, be gentle with overspenders in the first year of rate-capping and keep public spending down.

The general council of the Trades Union Congress said after meeting in London yesterday: "The Government has aimed to punish its political opponents while rewarding its friends in the shire counties." But Mrs Blatch said that

although the settlement was a step towards greater fairness, her council might again face the paradox about which it and other Conservative shires have complained this year.

Demand for council services is rising fast in Buckinghamshire and Cambridgeshire because they have the fastest-growing county populations in the country. Both have been penalized for spending in excess of government targets this year even though their official assessments of what they need to spend to provide adequate services are above the targets.

At the other end of the spending scale it became clear yesterday that several Labour-led councils had escaped rate-capping by only a small margin. The determination of "most Labour-led urban councils to maintain services will place strong pressure on the Government to extend rate-capping widely the year after next."

Liberals and the SDP make manifesto pact

By Philip Webster

Political Reporter

Leaders of Liberal and Social Democratic parties have reached an important agreement on the formulation of policy designed to avoid damaging splits in the run-up to the next general election.

Dr David Owen and Mr David Steel yesterday approved a proposal from the Liberal standing committee and the SDP policy committee under which the Alliance would reach draft agreement on its priorities for the next election manifesto by the summer of 1986.

It hopes that by acting so soon it can avoid the charge, levelled at it by many of its own activists and opponents at the last election, that it was hastily cobbling together a programme and diluting the policies of the individual parties.

	Seats held	Seats defect	Seats lost	Seats gained	Seats now
Con	24	11	1	14	26
Lab	18	0	1	21	17
Liberal	8	1	6	1	2
SDP	1	1	1	1	1
Others	4	2	1	1	3

The Alliance is maintaining the steady rise in popularity indicated by recent opinion polls, according to a survey of local council by-elections, involving more than 100,000 voters, held since the European elections on June 14.

The survey, which appears in this week's *New Statesman*, shows that in 35 strident contests, the Conservatives polled 34,811 votes, or 34.7 per cent, Labour 33,725 (33.6 per cent) and the Alliance 29,981 (29.9 per cent).

Decision soon on remand time limit

By Peter Evans

Home Affairs Correspondent

The Government aims to announce early in the next session of Parliament whether statutory time limits should be introduced for the period from arrest to trial.

The Home Secretary, Mr. Leon Brittan, has set in hand a study of the issue by officials, the Government says in a reply to recommendations by the Home Affairs Select Committee to reduce the number of remand prisoners held awaiting custody.

"Whatever view is taken of the contribution of time limits, the court must aim to dispose of all cases, but particularly those involving defendants in custody, quickly", the Government says.

At the end of February, there were 6,850 untried remand prisoners in England and Wales. More than half were awaiting trial at the Crown Court, fewer than half at magistrates courts. Committals for trial in the Crown court have increased by nearly a half in four years. But the average waiting time between committal and trial was reduced from 11.8 weeks in the final quarter of 1979 to 10.2 weeks in the corresponding period of last year for defendants remanded in custody for some or all of the remand period.

Referring to action by the Lord Chancellor's Department, the Government says listing practice at Crown courts has been scrutinized and new arrangements made to identify and monitor long-standing cases still awaiting trial.

The Home Office has a pilot project monitoring waiting times in magistrates courts to provide better management information and indication of the need for remedy.

Nearly 20 extra Crown courtrooms are planned to be built in the south-east by 1988 and rather more elsewhere in England and Wales.

The Government will consider whether more use might be made of existing provisions to transfer remand hearings to courts nearer the prison where a defendant is held, but the provision of special "hall courts" is not judged a high priority.

The Government also welcomes a recommendation for the increased use of remands by courts for two or three days, which should be long enough for information-gathering, rather than for a complete week. *Remands in Custody: The Government Reply to the First Report from the Home Affairs Committee. Session 1983-84. (Command 9322, Stationery Office, £1.30).*

Health service pay talks near agreement

The settlement of National Health Service pay claims moved closer yesterday with two groups of workers being offered "final" 4.5 per cent increases which are likely to be accepted.

The offer to 100,000 white collar clerical and administrative workers was increased from 4 per cent and the 4.5 per cent offer to 17,000 ambulance staff came after the unions and employers could not agree on the introduction of a new salary structure.

The Government's 4.5 per cent offer to 250,000 ancillary workers also seems likely to be accepted after the agreement of the General and Municipal Workers. Union leaders will, however, press the Government for extra funds to pay the increases. They fear that if the Government refuses, there could be drastic cuts in patient services.

Threat over Silver Birch plan

From Tim Jones

Cardiff

Any miner who tries to return to work was warned yesterday that he would face strong opposition.

Speaking after the unidentified Nottinghamshire miner known as "Silver Birch" had held secret meetings to try to break the strike, a union official said: "We are not having this."

Mr Kim Howells, research officer of the National Union of Mineworkers' South Wales area, said: "The miners and their families have not stuck it out on strike for 20 weeks to be stabbed in the back by a bunch of traitors who refuse to come out and debate the issues openly."

He added: "We are not treating this seriously until we see evidence that there are people behind it rather than media theories."

"The whole thing seems to be part of a concerted campaign."

Police bar no-go patrol areas

"No-go" areas for the police patrolling pit villages during the miners' dispute will not be tolerated, the Chief Constable of West Yorkshire, Mr Colin Sampson, said yesterday. He denied that his force was over-reacting.

More than 2,000 pickets broke through a police blockade and tried to stop men at Babington colliery, near Nottingham, going to work. The police made 70 arrests.

Thirty-three pickets were arrested in a skirmish with the police at the main gates of Bilston Glen colliery, near Edinburgh.

Two haulage firms, George M. Read Transport of Mitchell-dean, and Richard Read Transport, of Longhope, both in Gloucestershire, issued High Court writs against South Wales miners' leaders over the picketing of the Port Talbot and Llanwern steel works.

The effects of the strike were disclosed by the Department of Employment.

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MEN'S SALE Starts Sat 28th July

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11 CADILLY
FINAL DRASTIC REDUCTIONS
SALE ENDS SATURDAY 28th JULY

MEN
• DAKS suits.....£149. £59
• DAKS jackets.....£195. £49
• DAKS trousers.....£49. \$19.50
WOMEN
• DAKS wool check skirts.....£79. £29
• Scappa lightweight wool culottes.....£79. £19
• Escada cotton 2-pieces.....£149. £55

Barristers attack plan for solicitors to appear in Crown courts

By Frances Gibb Legal Affairs Correspondent

A serious clash is developing between leaders of the Bar and Home Office officials over government plans for the role of the 1,500 lawyers to be employed in the new independent prosecution service.

The chairman of the Bar has described as "catastrophic" the Home Office proposals for the future of the profession. They float the prospect of barristers and solicitors employed in the new service practising in the Crown courts.

At present the Bar has exclusive rights of audience in the Crown courts, an important part of the profession's work although the Law Society recently launched an offensive to end that monopoly.

Mr Michael Wright, QC, the Bar's chairman, and Michael Hill, QC, chairman of the Criminal Bar Association, have protested vigorously over the proposals which the Bar Council "views with profound concern".

It is vital, Mr Wright says, for privately practising barristers and solicitors to be involved in the new service, which is to be set up in 1986.

Serious cases, such as those that come before the Crown courts, "should always be presented by an advocate who is seen to be independent both of the police and of the prosecuting authority".

That was the view of the Royal Commission on Legal Services. "No one, we believe, could wish to see the concept of the professional prosecutor emotionally or politically identified with his cause, introduced into the English system of justice".

Mr Wright says that the impact on the young barristers in criminal practice "will be nothing short of catastrophic". To allow even appeals and committals for sentence to be conducted by the employed lawyers would mean the loss of a substantial volume of work

that provides one of the "basic training grounds" upon which young criminal barristers learn their trade.

A career at the Bar will become even less attractive a prospect than now, recruitment to the traditional Bar "will be greatly reduced", and "its ranks will be progressively thinned".

Ultimately, he says, there will be more pressure from solicitors for advocacy rights in the High Court with the result of a "fused" profession rather than two branches: a prospect firmly rejected by the Royal Commission on Legal Services.

Under the new independent prosecution service a total of 1,425 barristers and solicitors is expected to be employed.

In its discussion paper the Home Office points out that under the Supreme Court Act, 1981, the Lord Chancellor can direct that solicitors may appear in, conduct, defend, and address the court in any Crown court proceedings.

Managers in Britain better off

British managers have improved their standard of living compared with their international equivalents, according to a survey of prices, incomes and taxation published yesterday.

A firm of international management consultants, Inbicon, says that British management has improved its position, despite the fall in the value of the pound, because of pay rises higher than inflation.

The average pay of a managing director of a company with annual sales of £10m is now £30,500. Taking into account cost of living differences, that is the eleventh best rate in the world for the job.

It is, however, only just over half the amount earned by the best paid executives, who are Swiss, and only two thirds of the real pay of managers in France and the United States.

The worst paid management in the main industrialized countries is in Portugal, Sweden, and the Irish Republic.

Man freed after 16 years wants pardon

From Craig Seton, Chesterfield

Geoffrey Davis, who served nearly 16 years of a life sentence for murder until he was freed last week by the Court of Appeal, said yesterday: "For my own piece of mind I need to be pardoned and I will not stop until I get a pardon".

The case of Mr Davis, aged 38, who changed his name by deed poll from Mycock, was the first to succeed of those cases referred to the Court of Appeal by the Home Secretary because of the original convictions had involved evidence from the discredited Home Office forensic scientist Dr Alan Clift.

It was Mr Davis's second appeal since his conviction in 1969 for the rape and murder of Miss Adeline Bracegirdle, aged 84.

Mr Davis, who was a labourer for a landscape gardener in Macclesfield, Cheshire, was enjoying his first taste of freedom after nearly 16 years in 11 different prisons.

Standing in the sunshine in the garden of his sister Sheila's

house in Chesterfield, he said that he was bitter about the police and the forensic service and would pursue three demands - a full pardon, compensation for the loss of years of his life, and a public inquiry to establish what had gone wrong.

Mr Davis said: "I will never forget what has happened to me. I shall keep reminding myself what it was like. Remember, if I had been convicted three years earlier I would have been hanged".

Mr Davis said he had not put a figure on the amount of compensation he hoped to get from the Home Office but he agreed most reports suggested amounts about £150,000. What ever he received he would use to look after his sister's family and his mother.

Recounting his time in prison, Mr Davis said he had been desperate many times but had adopted the philosophy that if it got too bad he would escape.

Bar on Communion may lead to appeal

A petition to the Queen, as Head of the established church, is possible over an ecclesiastical dispute between parishioners and their rector in Ewhurst, East Sussex. The controversy centres on two women, briefly refused Communion three years ago.

In the absence of any public explanation of the temporary excommunication, there have been rumours linking the women with witchcraft and lesbianism.

On September 5, 1981, the Rector of Ewhurst, the Rev Philip Wood, telephoned Miss Joan Hervey and Mrs Dorothy Atherton and told them not to come to church the next Sunday. Mr Wood says he told the women why they were banned, but that he has since been told by his superiors not to disclose the reasons.

Miss Hervey, a retired mathematics teacher, who taught Princess Anne at Benenden nearby, stayed away. Mrs Atherton went to church, but was publicly refused Communion at the altar rail. Later Mr Wood told his bishop but was told "a refusal of Communion was not warranted by the circumstances".

On September 21, 1981, he wrote withdrawing the excommunication, but asking the women to refrain from "clandestine activities".

The parish is now split between supporters of the two women and the rector. Seventy of the 140 people on the church

roll three years ago now worship elsewhere.

Miss Hervey, aged 74, a lay preacher, cycles two and a half miles to the church at Sedlescombe. She has no idea why she was banned. "There have been all these baseless rumours of witchcraft and lesbianism", she said.

"In fact I hardly knew Mrs Atherton. We were not friends at all and lived in different villages."

Mrs Atherton has since died in an accident in which she fell on a flower pot cane. She is said never to have recovered from the shock of being refused Communion.

The Bishop of Chichester, Dr Eric Kemp, has maintained that the rector was legally empowered to ban the women without his bishop's approval, provided he told him within seven days, as he did.

Despite appeals by Miss Hervey's supporters and the rector, the bishop has refused to allow the case to "go forward to all the publicity and unpleasantness of a trial in the consistory court".

John Howard, a former parish councillor who leads the campaign for the women, believes that only the Queen can order a hearing, and is considering petitioning her.

He insists that Mr Wood cannot have acted legally because canon law permits church bans only in the case of "grave and immediate scandal to the congregation".



The Rev Philip Wood and Miss Hervey yesterday

Ford chief's ploy to boost sales

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

Mr Sam Toy, chairman of Ford Britain, has told his dealers that he leaked news of a price increase planned for the middle of next month in an interview with a journalist.

The explanation in a letter to all dealers was itself leaked to the trade press yesterday. It is seen by car traders as a ploy to

tempt motorists to boost sales in July and August by rushing to beat the increase.

A Ford main dealer said: "It is not the first time this has happened. Ford is not the only company doing it."

● Volkswagen is recalling 1,500,000 cars in West Germany to check a suspect steering component after five road deaths in the past three

years. But VAG, the Lounbo group company which controls VW and Audi imports, is not issuing a similar recall to British owners.

The suspect cars are VW Polo, Derby, and Passat and Audi 50 and 80 models built between 1972 and 1978. VW dealers in Britain have been told to carry out free checks if owners express concern.

Airport profits soar after cut-price holidays war

By Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent

There were record profits and duty-free sales at Britain's main airports last year, thanks to the cut-price war between holiday companies and the influx of American tourists in the wake of the strong dollar.

The British Airports Authority, which runs seven airports, including Heathrow and Gatwick, reported yesterday pre-tax trading profits for the 1983-84 financial year of £31.6m, against £35m the year before.

The number of passengers using the airports rose by 5.7 per cent, a growth rate that continues to accelerate. The number of passengers carried was up by 7 per cent in the

second half of 1983-84, and the figures for the first quarter of this financial year are 12 per cent ahead of last year's, Mr Norman Payne, the authority's chairman, said yesterday.

The authority, whose privatization has been provisionally scheduled by the Government for late 1986, has been forced to make big tax provisions to take account of the Budget's changes in capital allowance tax treatment. Its tax charge last year was £28.4m, against £7m the previous year, leaving a net profit of £1.7m (£22.1m).

Trading profits at Heathrow increased from £45.7m to £50.3m, while Gatwick's profit jumped from £775,000 to £5.8m. The loss at the author-

ity's four Scottish airports, including the threatened Prestwick, fell from £3.3m to £675,000. Mr Payne said the Scottish airports were expected to make a profit this year.

Britain's cross-channel hovercraft service celebrated its first 25 years and fears that it is on the verge of collapse (Michael Bailey writes).

Hovercraft captured a third of the traffic at Dover in the late 1970s (since then have fallen to a fifth), but have never really been profitable. Three years ago the two loss-making rivals on the route, Sweden's

Hover-Lloyd and British Rail Seaspacer, were merged to form Hoverspeed, which was sold last year to a management consortium.

According to expert opinion, there is a real danger that collapse could come before the end of this year.

That was firmly denied by Mr Michael Keeling, Hoverspeed's new chairman, a merchant banker at yesterday's celebrations at Dover of the 25th anniversary of Cockerell's first experimental crossing.

"Losses were cut from £10m pre-merger to £5m in 1982 and £3m in 1983, and this year we hope to break even", Mr Keeling said.

Channel flight marks Bleriot anniversary



Historic flight: Mr Patrick Lindsay, a director of Christie's London, preparing to take off from Calais yesterday in a replica Bleriot aircraft to mark the first cross-Channel flight by Louis Bleriot 75 years ago and (right) passing South Foreland light before landing north east of Dover (Photographs: Brian Harris and Associated Press).

Addict population may be at least 40,000

Intelligence reports have started to reach Europe and the United States from the great traditional opium poppy area of South-west Asia, the "Golden Triangle", after the first of this year's two harvests. Once again the crop is said to be good.

In the "Golden Crescent", in the North-west frontier province of Pakistan, peasant farmers completed their harvest last month. The heroin produced from the poppies may not reach Britain for a year or more, stockpiled until the price or time is ripe, but there will be no shortage and no lack of custom.

For as Lord Lane said in a

speech urging tougher sentences for traffickers, heroin use in Britain has become widespread in the past five years.

Home Office figures for registered addicts rose to more than 10,000 last year for the first time. Unofficially the addict population is put at more than 40,000.

Customs officers seized more than 200 kilograms of heroin last year and figures so far

involved compared with their usual offences.

Lord Lane suggested that Britain had woken late to the growth of heroin abuse and some Whitehall officials would agree. Successive governments in the last decade Parliament debate on drug abuse was infrequent.

It is unlikely that government ministers will be able to continue to put the drug problem to one side. A recent Commons debate showed that MPs on all sides of the House are now taking an interest in the problem.

Child found stabbed to death

A missing girl aged seven was found stabbed to death yesterday. Her own family found the body as they searched the flats where Leonie Darnley had vanished a few hours before.

It is believed that she was attacked in a basement near her home in Alkinson House, Austin Road, Battersea, south-west London.

The child's mother, Denise Carberry, aged 34, a part-time student, was being treated for shock yesterday.

The girl's aunt said: "The last time her mother saw her she was playing happily in the road outside with some kids".

Software 'pirate' is fined

A youth who set up a computer software hire business on a government grant was fined yesterday in what is believed to be Britain's first conviction for software piracy.

Howard Austin, aged 19, of Park Top, Putney, West Yorkshire, was accused of hiring out a copy of a software tape and photocopies of the manual that went with it. He admitted three offences against the Trade Descriptions Act, two against the Copyright Act, and one of forgery.

Magistrates at Teignmouth, Devon, fined him £40 with 250 costs, and gave him a six-month conditional discharge.

Cruelty to children rising, society says

Social workers are learning of increasing numbers of cases of sexual abuse of children, according to figures published yesterday by the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

The figures show that the primary victims of sexual abuse in the home are girls aged between 10 and 14 who are prey to their natural fathers or men living with their mothers.

The 100-year-old Society said the rising trend shown in the figures might not reflect a growing incidence of sexual abuse so much as the greater sensitivity to the offence now shown by child care staff. The Society's figures are virtually the only national data available.

In 1982, the Society registered 40 children who had been sexually abused within its sample areas; the total in the country as a whole could be anywhere between 300 and 3,000, only seven cases were registered in the sample areas.

Overall, the Society estimates that in 1982 there were about

Fiercer hunt for tax dodgers

By Bill Johnston, Technology Correspondent

Tax dodgers will be pursued more vigorously as a result of the Inland Revenue's new £261m computer system, Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said at the system's launch yesterday.

The system for PAYE and self-employed schedule D tax payers will save the revenue 6,000 jobs and allow more staff to investigate the black economy which is estimated to account for 6 to 8 per cent of the gross national product. No compulsory redundancies are expected.

The PAYE computer system, which can make 11x allowance changes in weeks rather than months to the 28 million tax payers' records, will be fully operational by 1987/88. There will be 11 computer centres, in East Kilbride, Livingston, Faverdale, Netherthorpe, Wythenshawe, Wetherby, Telford, Peterborough, Llanishan, Exeter, and West Byfleet.

Kenneth Fleet, page 15

Judge wins his request for 'Colonel Bogey'

By Kenneth Gosling

A famous march was excluded yesterday from a list of copyright music at the request of a High Court judge hearing a case brought by the Performing Right Society against an Oxfordshire hotel.

"Colonel Bogey", written 70 years ago by Kenneth J Alford, pen-name of Major Frederick Rickards, was included on a tape played at the Langstone Arms Hotel at Kingham. The society said that the hotel had played the music without the required licence from the society.

Was "Colonel Bogey" still covered by copyright? Mr Justice Whitford asked. Copyright, he was told by Mr Edmund Stone-James, for the society, applied to a particular arrangement of the tune.

The judge, although granting the society an injunction against the hotelier, Mr Terence Jarvis, said that he would prefer the complaint march to be taken out. That was done.

Evidence in spy case 'codswallop'

The appearance of Mrs Eva Jaafar as a witness at the Central Criminal Court was a ploy aimed at distracting the counter-intelligence services, it was claimed yesterday.

The evidence of Hungarian-born Mrs Jaafar, aged 31, at the trial of Senior Aircraftman Paul Davies, aged 21, the RAF telegraphist accused of passing secret Nato signals to her in Cyprus, was "codswallop", Mr Kenneth Richardson, for the prosecution, said in his final speech.

SAC Davies, who worked in the communications centre at Episkopi, is accused of passing to Mrs Jaafar three signals in September last year involving the peacekeeping force in Lebanon.

Mr Richardson said that SAC Davies was first questioned about the relatively trivial offence of taking away a car. Later he "opened the floodgates", admitting thefts and going on to confess to the secrets offences.

Mr Richardson Ferguson, for Mr Davies, said in his final speech: "You have seen the prosecution case, which was 'born in suspicion and fostered in innuendo, finally founder in the face of truth and reality'."

Mr Ferguson said: "What an amazing spy Eva Jaafar is. She uses her own name. I always thought when I read spy books that you did not use your own name."

"She then, when her associate is being tried for espionage, flies over to the country in which he is being tried and then, bold as brass, she walks into the Old Bailey."

"What an incredible spy, what an incredible story - what nonsense."

The trial was adjourned until today when Mr Justice Otton will begin his summing up.

Post Office 'fails own mail delivery targets'

By Robin Young

The Post Office is failing to meet its own target for the prompt delivery of mail, according to a survey carried out by the National Federation of Consumer Groups.

More than 10 members all over Britain found that more than an eighth of the mail they received during May was delivered late.

The Post Office's own targets are that 90 per cent of first class mail should be delivered the day after posting, and 93 per cent of second class mail within three days. In the survey the

POSTAL DELIVERIES			
Class	Number delivered	Number on target	Failure %
First	2,608	2,208	15.3
Second	3,100	2,756	11.1
Totals	5,708	4,964	13.0

Survival kit

A kitten survived a 200-mile motorway journey from Plymouth sitting on top of the battery under a car bonnet. The driver found it at a motorway service station in Strensham, Hereford and Worcester.

Falcons breed

Peregrine falcons have bred in Derbyshire for the first time in 30 years, producing three young. The nest has been under strict security guard.

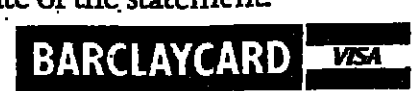
Barclaycard Interest Rate.

NOTICE TO CARDHOLDERS

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National unity bandwagon starts rolling as Israel faces up to poll impasse

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Confronted by the most serious political deadlock in Israel's history, a growing number of politicians are looking towards a government of national unity as a way out of the impasse. But there is little optimism that the difficulties in the way will be overcome.

Just as both main power blocs, the Likud and Labour, are trying to win enough support among the 13 smaller parties to form a narrow-based coalition, so are they both demanding the right to lead any national unity government.

Mr Shimon Peres, the Labour leader, maintains that his party would have the right to head a broad-based coalition because it has the greatest number of seats (45), while Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister, contends that his Likud block

How the factions will line up in Knesset

In the intensive negotiations to form a new Israeli Government, the following 13 Knesset factions all have a role to play, either active or passive, in the calculations of Labour and Likud, the two main blocs. Their projected number of seats with 38 per cent of the vote counted are in brackets.

The Religious Camp

Greatly splintered, now embraces Shas, the Sephardic Torah Guardians, a newly formed orthodox group within the ultra-orthodox Jewish community (4); Agudat Yisrael, also ultra-orthodox, whose members supported the last coalition but took no Cabinet seats (2); the National Religious Party, now pondering renewing its pre-1977 ties with Labour (4); Morasha, a hardline break-away from the NRP led by ultra-nationalist Rabbi Haim Druckman, will only go with Labour if it changes its views over the West Bank (2); and, Tami, the Sephardic party which forced the early election and was subsequently heavily defeated in the polls (1).

The Right

Techiya, born out of opposition to the peace treaty with Egypt, now broadened with addition of Tzomet movement of former Chief of Staff, General Rafael Eitan (4). Confident of becoming third largest Knesset faction with five members after soldiers' vote counted, Kach, led by Rabbi Meir Kahane, publicly shunned

by most Likud members, because of extreme views, including wish to expel 720,000 Israeli Arabs (1).

The Left

Stunning last remnant of the 1977 Democratic Movement for Change and darling of the middle classes. Would be in centre were it not for dovish approach to foreign and defence issues, notably Lebanon war (3). Citizens' Rights Movement led by one of Israel's most formidable defence lawyers, Ms Shulamit Aloni, has close links with the Peace Now movement (3).

Centre block

Yahad, a new party founded and led by former Defence Minister, Mr Ezer Weizman, whose personality overshadows its fuzzy policies. Dovish on Palestinian question, but against territorial compromise (3). Onetz splinter group from now-defunct Ahdut party of late Mr Moshe Dayan, its leader, Mr Yigal Hurwitz, has sworn to be returned to the Finance Ministry, which he formerly occupied for Likud (1). Arab-supported groups

Hadash: front dominated by orthodox pro-Moscow Communists. Party includes both Jews and Arabs and has the blessing of Mr Yasser Arafat, PLO chief (4). The Progressive List for Peace also claiming to be blessed by Mr Arafat, overcame an initial ban and now stands of far left of political spectrum. Puts Palestinian question above all else (2).

Value for money is top priority

More British aid going to international bodies

By Michael Prest

The proportion of Britain's overseas aid budget going to international institutions rather than being directly controlled by Britain has risen sharply in the last two years, according to a government report published yesterday.

In its second annual review of the Overseas Development Administration, a section of the Foreign Office with responsibility for aid, says that international bodies, such as the World Bank and the European Development Fund, absorbed 41 per cent of Britain's aid budget last year compared with 30 per cent in 1981.

Overseas aid last year ran at £1,058m, or 0.35 per cent of gross domestic product, against

£1,024m, or 0.37 per cent, in 1982.

For the first time the ODA has produced a list of the top 10 recipients of British aid. India is clearly the leader, although the change over 1982 is exaggerated by trying to translate financial years into calendar years. In the financial year 1982-83 India received £105m.

The report emphasizes that government policy is to obtain the best value for aid money disbursed. It estimates that of £60m in bilateral aid - assistance given Britain directly to another country - in 1983 about 75 per cent was spent on British goods. No less than 120 per cent of the £477m aid channelled through international bodies came back to the country.

If total aid is broken down by sector, the biggest area of expenditure was energy, which received £104m. Manufacturing was second with £103m, and transport and communications third with £71.3m. Overall project aid, absorbing 55 per cent of all assistance, was the biggest category.

British Overseas Aid 1983. Overseas Development Administration HMSO: Price £5.95.

Socialists in Spain resent advice on Nato

From Richard Wigg Madrid

Señor Manuel Fraga, Spain's opposition leader, has embarrassed the ruling Socialists by sending them advice on the still-clouded question of membership straight after he had seen President Reagan in Washington.

Señor Fraga advised the González Government not to risk losing the referendum, as public opinion polls have suggested it would but to opt instead for consulting Spanish people as promised through an early general election.

Señor Fraga, whose right-wing Popular Alliance wants Spain to become a full and militarily integrated member of Nato, claimed he was thinking of Spain's national interest and ignoring the fact that an early election would not be to his own party's advantage.

Pravda accuses US of 'nuclear hostages' plan

Moscow (Reuters) - Pravda

accused the United States of planning to deploy strategic missiles in Europe in addition to medium-range cruise and Pershing rockets.

The Soviet Communist Party newspaper said this was the true intention behind suggestions made to London that it should allow the United States to station ground Minuteman missiles with conventional warheads on British territory.

The commentary was in response to a remark by Mrs Margaret Thatcher in Parliament yesterday that to deploy strategic weapons in Europe, in addition to medium-range nuclear arms, to destroy the military balance and turn the Nato countries into its nuclear hostages once and for all, Pravda said.

US suggestions that the Minuteman rockets would be sent to Britain would have only conventional warheads were "meant to blow dust into the eyes of simpletons".



Signora Maria Giorgini, aged 51, pictured several years ago, also known as Mamma Elie, who was sentenced in Vercelli, northern Italy, to 10 years in jail for running a fake religious order which forced her followers to work without pay and made her a fortune.

She recruited young people who believed her order was recognized by the Vatican, and made them live in complete isolation, working long hours in nursing homes where invalids came seeking miraculous cures. The judges said she used physical and psychological violence

from reporting on the Olympics in the name of those very freedoms we seek for ourselves and our readers". She appealed to both overseas journalist bodies to make representations to the IOC.

The SASI said it believed "no journalists should be prevented from doing their jobs reporting on news events wherever they may be. This policy has brought journalists repeatedly into conflict with the state within the borders of South Africa".

The ban has deeply upset South Africa's English-language press, which has been a relentless and courageous opponent of apartheid.

Ms Pat Sidley, the SASI's president, said in the letter that it was insulting to be prevented



Papal greeting: An embrace from the Pope for a boy at his weekly general audience at the Vatican yesterday.

Busts found in canal may be by Modigliani

From Peter Nichols Rome

The city of Livorno looks set to be able to claim one of the oldest rediscoveries in the history of art if two sculptured heads removed from the canal prove to have been fashioned by Modigliani and dumped by him in the water 75 years ago in a fit of pique.

Tradition has it that Amedeo Modigliani returned briefly from Paris to his native Livorno in 1909 and showed some of his latest work to his friends. The heads, inspired by Negro sculpture, are said to have won derision from the critics, professional and amateur, of the Caff Bardi frequented by the artist.

Their advice about the best place to put them was clear and Modigliani obliged by pushing the heads into the Fosso Reale canal, still on the wooden wheelbarrow used to transport them.

The heads were fished out on Monday and Tuesday in the wake of a great deal of old iron, rusty bicycles and other bits and pieces resting on the muddy bottom. One of the heads is sculpted in sandstone and the other in granite.

Little has been said about their appearance, except for some somewhat breathless remarks about the beauty of the eyes of one and the nobility of the nose of the other. They are now in the hands of three experts, from whom a final opinion on their authenticity is awaited.

The general tone of comment at Livorno's municipality is of confidence that the heads will survive the scrutiny. And the wheelbarrow too, because the seafarers found a partly-rotted wooden gardeners' barrow in the water as well.

One elderly spectator of the find was heard to comment that he had seen such wheelbarrows since his grandfather's day, which is presumably expert opinion of a kind.

This is the centenary year of Modigliani's birth, and no better way could be found to mark the anniversary than by a sensational find of this nature, even if fears of a possible plant cannot be entirely dispensed with the real experts have had their say.

According to law, the heads would be the property of the state if proved authentic. Livorno, however, is in no mood to allow them to be taken elsewhere after the euphoria of the find, not even in another wheelbarrow.

SE Asia trip for Thatcher

Mrs Thatcher is planning an autumn visit to Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia and Sri Lanka, according to diplomatic sources in South East Asia.

There has been no confirmation from London, but it is understood that Mrs Thatcher is planning to be away for about a fortnight towards the end of September.

The former Commission president and founder-member of the Social Democratic Party had travelled to Strasbourg to open a campaign against the British electoral system. That the Liberal-SDP Alliance had attracted 19.5 per cent of the votes cast in the European elections but had won no seats,

Britain goes back to being target for Strasbourg attacks

From Ian Murray, Strasbourg

The new European Parliament has begun where it left off last May, hearing all-round condemnations of British attitudes over the European budget.

The attack was led yesterday, in diplomatic words, by Dr Gaetano Fittig, the Irish Taoiseach. Prime Minister making his address as president in office of the European Council. It was followed up with more feeling by Mr Gaston Thorn, the president of the European Commission. It became a favourite topic for invective when leaders of the different political groups began making their comments from the floor.

Dr Fittig made it plain that "there was a political agreement in principle that the necessary steps should be taken at the next budget council meeting to provide for the interim financing of the Community."

That budget council took place last week when Britain stood alone against the desire of the other nine countries to raise extra money this year to pay the Community's bills this year. Dr Fittig gave a warning that this meant the amount of time available to resolve the problem was "extremely short".

He promised that another budget council would be held in time for the Parliament to vote on a supplementary budget in time for the necessary money to be made available in October.

He accepted the British argument that savings could be made but insisted (in the only part of his speech underlined in the prepared text) that whatever shortfall there was "must be provided".

Mr Thorn was more pointed. "The Commission considers that the approval of a supplementary budget is an absolute priority and not, as the government of one member-state has said, an unnecessary and unacceptable thing."

As far as budget discipline was concerned, he said, although some countries paid lip-service to it, it had to be used as a means of agreeing priorities and not a mechanical and blind way of imposing constraints. To do that, he said, was "an intolerable inconsistency."

Jenkins PR plea backed in Europe

From Our Own Correspondent Strasbourg

The European court may be asked to force Britain to introduce proportional representation for the next elections to the European Parliament in 1989.

As far as tactics being considered within the Parliament, Mme Simone Vell, leader of the Liberal group, said during a joint press conference with Mr Roy Jenkins.

The former Commission president and founder-member of the Social Democratic Party had travelled to Strasbourg to open a campaign against the British electoral system. That the Liberal-SDP Alliance had attracted 19.5 per cent of the votes cast in the European elections but had won no seats,

he said, "has cheated not only the voters of Britain but the voters of Europe as well". He said the fact that there were not 15 Alliance members in the house - as there would have been if Britain had used proportional representation - meant the whole make-up of the European Parliament had been distorted.

Mme Vell said that it was an obligation of Community rules for there to be a common electoral system for the European elections and she proposed that the Parliament would do everything in its power to force the Council of Ministers to agree to this in time for the 1989 elections.

As a first step she has tabled a resolution for the current session of Parliament noting the way the two main British parties "resist any change" and insisting on the legal and moral obligation of the Community to establish a uniform electoral system.

The Parliament is awaiting the result of a court case it has opened against the Council of Ministers for failing to carry out its obligations to bring in a transport policy.

Depending on the outcome of that case, Parliament could decide to take similar court action against the Council for failing to ensure that European elections are conducted along the same lines in each member state.

Steel unions in France sign deal on redundancy

From Diana Goldes Paris

A peace-setting "no compulsory redundancy" agreement was concluded yesterday between unions and management in the steel industry, where one third of the 90,000 workforce are expected to lose their jobs over the next three to four years.

Under the agreement, signed by three of the main unions but not the Communist-led CGT, any worker who is made redundant becomes eligible for either early retirement, if he is over the age of 50, a two-year retraining-redeployment contract at more than 80 per cent of his former net salary.

Such contracts have already been proposed by the Government for workers made redundant in shipbuilding, coal-mining or steel, and for those working in the 15 specially designated redevelopment zones. But they have been viewed with scepticism by the unions, who believed they would simply be used as temporary "parking lots" before workers were finally thrown out on to the dole.

What is new in the latest agreement, and critical from the unions' point of view, is a clause stipulating that, if after the two-year retraining period the worker still has not found a job he will not be laid off but will be offered further training, provided he has not turned down more than two suitable jobs, at least one of which must be in his home area.

Any worker who does not wish to undergo retraining, may exchange his two-year redeployment contract for a lump sum redundancy payment, roughly equivalent to one year's salary. Those opting for early retirement will get 75 per cent of their gross salary if they are aged 50 to 55, and 70 per cent if they are over 55.

M Jean-Louis Foucaud, a negotiator for the Socialist CFTD union, said this agreement was extremely important because it guaranteed that no worker would be made compulsorily redundant. The unions would be pressing for a similar guarantee for workers in coal-mining and shipbuilding, where mass redundancies are also planned over the next few years.

However, the CGT denounced the agreement as a seal of approval for the Government's plans, announced in March, for big cutbacks in the steel industry involving plant closures and tens of thousands of redundancies.

The CGT is expected to try to step up its opposition to reconstruction plans after the Communist Party's decision to leave the Government. But whether the rank and file will follow their union's lead in another matter. The vast majority of CGT members are not themselves Communist, and increasingly their main concern is jobs rather than union solidarity.

The failure to tackle unemployment effectively was at the heart of the Communist decision to abstain in Tuesday night's vote of confidence in the Government's overall policies. M André Lajoinie, leader of the group of 44 Communist MPs in Parliament, said unemployment was rising "at an agonizing rate of 1,000 unemployed workers a day".

However, the abstention did not mean that the Communists would now adopt a position of "systematic opposition" to the Government he insisted. It was rather intended as "a kind of alarm signal showing the danger involved in pursuing a policy of economic rigour".

Four killed as second gunman runs riot

Hot Springs, Arkansas (Reuters) - A man who was wounded

in a shoot-out with police drove to a motel that had once ordered him to leave and killed four people before dying, the police said yesterday.

It was the second mass killing in the United States in seven days. Last Wednesday James Earl Ray, a sacked security guard, killed 21 people and wounded 19 in a McDonald's fast-food restaurant in San Ysidro, California. Huberty was shot dead by a police marksman. The restaurant is to close permanently.

Police said the Hot Springs incident began when the unidentified gunman and three companions were stopped by police for a routine traffic violation. The man emerged shooting, and in the exchange of gunfire he and the arresting officer were wounded.

The gunman got back in the car and drove half a mile to the motel, where he opened fire with a shotgun and a pistol, killing the barman and two women customers in the lounge and another man in the lobby.

A waitress said that the gunman had been thrown out of the motel a week ago for creating a disturbance and had threatened the staff as he left.

One of the gunman's three companions was seriously wounded. The two others were arrested.

Cabinet shuffle in Denmark

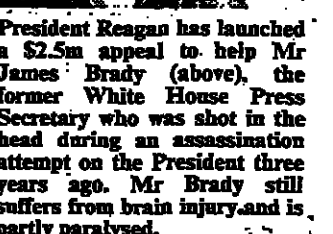
Copenhagen - Mr Palle Simonsen, formerly the Minister of Social Affairs, has become Finance Minister as part of a reshuffle of the Danish Cabinet that took place yesterday.

Mr Simonsen is joining the European Commission.

Mrs Elsebeth Kock-Petersen takes over the Social Ministry and Mrs Mette Madsen the Ministry of Ecclesiastical Affairs.

Brady fund

President Reagan has launched a \$2.5m appeal to help Mr James Brady (above), the former White House Press Secretary who was shot in the head during an assassination attempt on the President three years ago. Mr Brady still suffers from brain injury and is partly paralysed.



President Doe

Monrovia (Reuters) - The Liberian military leader, Mr Samuel Doe, sworn in yesterday as President of a newly created National Assembly, which will oversee the process of returning the country to democratic rule.

Casualties drop

San Salvador (Reuters) - El Salvador's Defence Minister, General Engenio Vides Casanova says the Army suffered 2,838 casualties fighting left-wing guerrillas in the 12 months to May 31, its lowest casualty rate in almost five years of civil war.

Price of failure

Baghdad (Reuters) - Iraq's ruling Revolutionary Command Council is to conscript all students who fail final-year examinations at colleges and institutes, according to the government newspaper Al-Jumhuriya.

Sakharov plea

Washington (Reuters) - The US Senate has overwhelmingly approved a resolution urging the Soviet Union to provide specific information on the whereabouts, health and legal status of Dr Andrei Sakharov and his wife, Yelena Bonner.

Island blasts

Paris (Reuters) - Four people were killed by two car bombs in France's Caribbean island of Guadeloupe yesterday. Investigators suspect the victims were separatists killed by their own bombs.

Treasure trove

Wellfleet, Massachusetts (Reuters) - Divers have found a wreck that may be the remains of Sam Bellamy's pirate ship Whidah holding an estimated £300m in gold, silver and other treasure.

Bridal suite

Blythe, California (AP) - Mr Glynn "Scotty" Wolfe, aged 76, an ordained baptist minister recognised by the Guinness Book of Records as the world's most married man among monogamous societies, has filed for his twenty-sixth divorce, and is looking for his twenty-seventh bride.

Easing of travel curbs will follow Bonn loan to East Germany

From Michael Rinyon
Bonn

Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Government yesterday formally approved a new loan of DM950m (£253m) raised by West German banks for East Germany, which is expected to ease and increase travel between the two countries.

The loan is part of a general package that Bonn has been negotiating with East Berlin which will lead to significant concessions by the East Germans to increase human contacts. Yesterday Herr Philipp Jenninger, State Secretary in the Chancellery, laid before the Cabinet the 11-point agreement both sides were eager to conclude before the visit here at the end of September of Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader.

In return for federal guarantees for the loan, the East Germans have agreed to lower the minimum compulsory exchange from DM25 a day to DM15 for Western pensioners visiting East Germany, to allow East German pensioners to visit

Mission to reopen in E Berlin

West Germany's mission in East Berlin, closed to visitors since the departure of 55 East Germans who had sought asylum there, will be open again next week. Building modifications will limit the numbers admitted at one time, however, and prevent access to the rest of the mission. It was also announced in Bonn that East Berlin has agreed to allow a further 1,000 people to emigrate to the West this year, bringing the total to about 33,000.

Friends and acquaintances in the West (instead of only immediate relatives, as at present), increase the time East German pensioners may stay in the West from 30 to 60 days, and West Germans in East Germany from 30 to 45 days. Customs duties will be lightened and a series of measures adopted to increase traffic between border districts. The new credit arrangements,

like last year's, do not oblige East Germany to spend the money on West German goods, though the federal republic accounts for most of its Western trade. The loan will be raised by a consortium headed by the Deutsche Bank, West Germany's biggest, and will be transferred in two equal instalments. It is repayable over five years at an interest rate of one point more than that charged between London banks.

The new agreement epitomizes the continuing improvement in inner-German relations in spite of the frigid East-West atmosphere. The seal on this détente will be set by the three-day visit of Herr Honecker, due to begin on September 26.

The East German leader will not visit Bonn itself, because neither German state recognizes each other's capital. But he will be received by President Richard von Weizsäcker in Garmisch Castle, the official government guesthouse some 30 miles from Bonn, and he will have talks with Chancellor Kohl in Bad Kreuznach, the Rhine-

land-Palatinate town, where Karl Marx married his wife, Jenny.

Herr Honecker, who will be paying his first visit to the federal republic, is also expected to go to his birthplace in Saarland, and will have talks with Herr Franz Josef Strauss, the Bavarian Prime Minister. While in Munich he is expected to visit the memorial at Dachau concentration camp.

Meanwhile, it has been announced in East Berlin that substantial reconstruction is about to begin on the East German side of Checkpoint Charlie, the crossing point between East and West Berlin for non-Germans. The dilapidated and drab wooden huts are probably going to be replaced with a more impressive structure to make a better impression on Western visitors.

Some details of the agreement were leaked a few weeks ago, and there will be clear disappointment that only pensioners will benefit immediately from the new regulations.

Pretoria's hopes of deal still alive

Talks with Swapo revived

From Michael Horusby
Johannesburg

The talks held on the Cape Verde Islands between South Africa and Swapo, the organization fighting for the independence of South-African-occupied Namibia, are the first publicly admitted direct negotiations between the two sides without the presence of third parties.

There have been previous secret contacts, and in May of this year Dr Willie van Niekerk, South Africa's Administrator-General in Namibia, who also represented Pretoria in Cape Verde, set down with Mr Sam Nujoma, the Swapo leader, at a conference in Lusaka, the Zambian capital.

Chaired jointly by Dr van Niekerk and President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia, the conference was attended by a group of internal political parties in Namibia - that is, those not involved in the guerrilla war waged by Swapo from bases in southern Angola. It broke down after coming close to agreement on Namibia's independence.

Mr Nujoma walked out, apparently in anger at attempts by two other Namibian parties to link independence to re-

moval of Cuban troops from Angola and to resurrect an old objection about the alleged inability of the United Nations to supervise the independence process impartially.

The immediate aim of the Cape Verde meeting, according to the South Africans, was to lay the basis for a ceasefire in Namibia, and to revive the momentum towards an independence settlement which petered out after the collapse of the Lusaka conference.

Earlier in the year events had seemed to be moving fast. At the end of January, Pretoria

announced it was ready to "disengage" its troops from southern Angola, and in February reached an agreement with Angola whereby the latter would take over the task of preventing Swapo infiltration into Namibia.

The disengagement has not been completed owing, Pretoria says, to continued activity by Swapo in southern Angola, which the Angolan Army has proved unable to control, and in northern Namibia.

At the end of January there was also a secret meeting in Lusaka between Mr Nujoma and the head of South African military intelligence at which the Swapo leader was offered safe passage to Namibia to discuss the formation of "a government of national unity", which would negotiate independence.

This proposal, turned down by Swapo, departed radically from UN Security Council Resolution 435, which envisages a UN-policed ceasefire and elections.

In March Pretoria proposed a regional peace conference. The proposal has never been withdrawn, although it was immediately rejected by Angola and Swapo.

Whale plan needs £9m in two years

From Our Correspondent
Nairobi

About £9m must be found within the next two years if the first global plan for the conservation of whales and other marine animals is to go ahead.

Experts of the Nairobi-based United Nations Environment Programme gave this warning yesterday, when they described the new plan as the key to the survival of whales, monk seals, manatees, dugongs and other marine mammals.

A UNEP ecologist, Dr Bent Nielsen, said the new action plan included the creation of sanctuaries for whales, banning public access to breeding areas, and the control of commercial whaling.

The International Whaling Commission recently agreed to ban commercial whaling between 1986 and 1990. But the Soviet Union, Japan and Norway - the three biggest whaling nations - have refused to support this.

Dr Nielsen said some of the money needed for the plan would come from individual governments. But much would also come from voluntary contributions.



Getting the message: Ms Ferraro admires a shirt bearing the slogan "A woman's place is in the White House". Later President Reagan's campaign chief apologized for the President's remark that the choice of Ms Ferraro might be "the biggest bust politically in recent history". He said no sexual slur was intended.

Tory has slight edge in Canadian TV debate

From John Best, Ottawa

There was no clear winner or loser when the leaders of Canada's three main political parties squared off in a pre-election television debate.

Mr John Turner, the Liberal Prime Minister, Mr Brian Mulroney, leader of the Progressive Conservatives and Mr Ed Broadbent, of the New Democratic Party all had reason for satisfaction at the outcome of Tuesday night's two-hour debate. However Mr Mulroney probably had the edge.

The first of three live television confrontations scheduled before the September 4

federal election, the debate was conducted entirely in French.

Mr Turner managed to maintain the statesmanlike poise that he has projected throughout the election campaign which started on July 7. The Prime Minister, who took over on June 30, spent considerable time putting distance between himself and the discredited economic policies of previous Liberal administrations. He emphasized that he has a "new team" ready to tackle problems such as 11 per cent unemployment and the 30 billion Canadian dollars (£16.5 billion) budget deficit.

Reagan goes on the attack with pledge not to raise taxes

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

President Reagan has taken the election offensive. "I have no plans for a tax increase," he told a nationally televised press conference on Tuesday night. With that, he sought to demolish one of the Democratic Party's most important platforms.

Asked if he would rule out a tax increase next year, he said: "Yes."

Mr Walter Mondale, his Democratic rival, who is fishing on Gullfins Lake in Minnesota, replied somewhat lamely: "I have been hearing fish stories all week. But tonight Mr Reagan told a big one."

Only last week Mr Mondale claimed that Mr Reagan had a secret plan to increase taxes.

Mr Reagan was in fine form. He presented Mr Mondale as a high-tax, big-spending liberal who would abandon the struggle against Marxism in Central America and let El Salvador bleed to death.

"I am not trigger-happy," the President said in reference to America's secret war in Nicaragua and its military aid to the Salvadoran Government. He insisted that Nicaragua was a threat to the hemisphere.

After the press conference, White House officials indicated that Mr Reagan has reluctantly abandoned hopes of winning more money from the Democratic-controlled House of Representatives for anti-Sandinista guerrillas in Nicaragua.

He had wanted an additional \$21m (about £16m), which would be channelled through the Central Intelligence Agency. Previous funds are almost exhausted and officials said

there appeared no hope of getting more from Congress.

He began the press conference with a salvo against the House of Representatives. He said it held captive six vitally important Bills, including those relating to a mandatory balanced budget, the use of public school classrooms by religious groups after hours, and an anti-crime package.

Reagan strategists are determined to fend off Democratic attacks on the President's popular themes of God, family and traditional values. It was pointed out to Mr Reagan at his press conference that Ms Geraldine Ferraro, running mate to Mr Mondale, had questioned whether he was a good Christian.

Asked for his reaction, he said with a grin: "I turned the other cheek."

Mr Reagan hinted strongly that the Administration would lift some of the sanctions imposed against Poland in response to the newly announced amnesty for political prisoners.

On the subject of the Anzus treaty, a Pacific regional defence alliance between Australia, New Zealand and the United States, he was asked how the United States could continue its defence commitments to New Zealand if it was denied port access for nuclear ships?

"I have every reason to be optimistic that there won't be any denial to our ships," he said. "We are going to do our best to persuade them that it is in their best interest, as well as ours, for us to continue with our alliance with Anzus."

Police accept Briton's account of gun killing

Chamoux (AFP) - Chris-

topher Manson, aged 27, a British climber who was charged on Tuesday with the accidental manslaughter of a French friend, has satisfied police over what happened, they said yesterday.

Mr Manson late on Monday night was celebrating a successful climb when he started showing a guest his guns. He loaded one when his friend Patrick Rieffel, aged 28, knocked at the door. Mr Manson went to open it carrying the gun, which suddenly went off killing Mr Rieffel.

Nigeria extends the scope of death penalty

Lagos (AFP) - Nigeria's mili-

tary rulers have issued decrees imposing the death sentence for arson, illegally exporting foodstuffs and petroleum, currency counterfeiting and drug trafficking. One decree recommended a 21-jail sentence for anyone over 18 who cheated in an examination.

Offences now subject to the death penalty include selling prohibited goods, damaging public property, tampering with oil pipelines, electricity and telephone cables, as well as illegal import or export of mineral oil or mineral ore.

IBM want you to meet
some people you may not
have seen for a long time.
Your family.



Zimbabwe renews state of emergency despite Nkomo party opposition

From Jan Eassey, Harare

The state of emergency in Zimbabwe has been renewed for a further six months as the Government grapples with the spreading incidence of attacks by anti-government guerrillas.

For the first time in the nine occasions that the renewal of the emergency has come before the House of Assembly since independence the Zanu party of Mr Joshua Nkomo voted against it late on Tuesday, accusing the Government's security forces of abusing the powers to kill and injure innocent civilians.

In previous emergency debates, Zanu has spoken strongly against the handling by the Army, particularly the Fifth

Brigade, of the civilian population but has voted with the Government as a display of its support for action against "dissidents" whom the Government says are backed by Zanu.

The 15 "No" votes on Tuesday included five from the Republican Front of Mr Ian Smith, renamed the Conservative Alliance since the party's congress at the weekend.

Mrs Ruth Chinamano, wife of Mr Josiah Chinamano, the Zanu vice-president, presented a lengthy list of names of people she alleged had been killed by government troops, and said that to support the renewal was against her conscience.

Among Zanu speakers during

the often rowdy three-hour debate were Mr Sikwili Moyo who was badly beaten while in the custody of security forces in February, and Mr Edward Ndlovu who said the emergency powers were being used to create a permanent state of instability in Manicaland.

Nine of the 62 votes for the renewal were from the independent white members of Parliament, and Mr Desmond Micklem said that the disruption was spreading.

Mr Simba Muboko, the Minister of Home Affairs, said in reply that the Government deplored conduct by the security forces which caused suffering to civilians, but questioned the validity of incidents brought up by Zanu MPs.

In May this year guerrillas killed two senior members of the ruling Zanu (PF) party of Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, in the Midlands province, the easternmost evidence of rebel activity.

In the last two weeks the local press has reported that "dissidents" have killed five civilians and abducted two, and security forces have killed three guerrillas in actions spread over Manicaland North, Binga district near the western end of Lake Kariba, Lower Gweru in the Midlands and in Gwelo in the North.

Harare taxes at the limit

A mood of complacency has settled over Harare's financial circles as they wait for today's announcement of the 1984-85 budget statement by the Minister of Finance Dr Bernard Chidzero (Our Correspondent writes).

The situation last year when Dr Chidzero presented a wide range of tax measures and described the country as being among the most heavily taxed in the world still obtains. The country's revenue producing private sector has shrunk considerably and economists are confident that Dr Chidzero has little left to tax, apart from

what emerges from tidying up previous measures.

The main issues to be dealt with by the minister are the country's increasingly unmanageable foreign debt and interest payments which seriously inhibit the Government's ability to pay to contain the unrest in the west of the country, which will require at least in a sustained military effort.

After a support operation by the International Monetary Fund last year of 300m SDR the Government is obliged to follow the bank's as yet unpublished guidelines of economic restraint.

Insanity defence rejected in Pancoast trial

From Ivor Davis
Los Angeles

Marvin Pancoast, aged 34, was found on Tuesday to have been sane when he brutally murdered the former mistress of President Reagan's late confidant, Alfred Bloomingdale. The decision was made by the jury that had convicted him of murder.

After deliberating for four days, the jury said Pancoast knew what he was doing when he bludgeoned Vicky Morgan, aged 30, to death with a baseball bat in a flat the couple shared in July last year.

Pancoast had pleaded not guilty by reason of insanity. He was ordered to return to court for sentencing on August 31.

Canberra may examine claim that Hollis planted KGB mole in 1948

From Tony Duboulin
Melbourne

The Federal Attorney General, Senator Gareth Evans, will consider investigating claims that a KGB "mole" was planted in the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation while it was being established.

Sir Roger Hollis, the former director of MI5, who has been accused of being a spy played a leading role in the establishment of ASIO when he visited Australia in 1948.

Yesterday, Senator Evans said that it would have been difficult for Sir Roger to plant a mole because he had not been involved in recruiting ASIO staff.

He said: "The only point I

make about the Hollis story is that I am told he had nothing whatsoever to do with the first batch of ASIO people back in 1948. He did advise in advance of that on the structure and so on of the organization but had nothing to do with the recruitment for it."

Senator Evans's remarks follow allegations made both here and in Britain by Mr Peter Wright, a former MI5 officer who led the investigation into the KGB penetration of MI5, that "it was 99 per cent certain that he (Sir Roger) was a spy".

The Attorney General, asked if he would be investigating claims that ASIO had ignored warnings by a high-ranking KGB mole, said: "To the extent that there appears anything in them, of course, I am respon-

sible for the organization. The story has been around for a while and the suggestion is that Hollis had something to do with establishing the initial personnel of the organization. I am told quite unequivocally that is not so."

Mr Wright, who has lived in Tasmania for eight years, also claimed that MI5 had files on two prominent Australian politicians in the mid-1970s and that one had been investigated.

He has offered to return to Britain, despite the risk of a 10 year jail sentence for breaching the Official Secrets Act, to expose what he called the threat posed by Soviet intelligence on the security of the United Kingdom. He called for a purge of the British security services.

Spycatcher Mr Peter Wright stands outside the small, timber shack, hidden away in the hills of southern Tasmania, that has been his home for eight years.

This week he broke silence on a top secret issue that has worried governments around the world - the extent of Soviet penetration of the upper echelons of the British secret service.

Mr Wright claims that a major cover-up, organized by former Director-General of MI5, the late Sir Roger Hollis, allowed Soviet "moles" to operate for decades.

The man from MI5's counter-espionage section left Whitehall in 1976 and moved with his wife, Lois, to the sleepy village of Cynet to be near his daughter.

Chapter of illusion ends

Israel closes Beirut office

From Robert Fisk
Dhabye, Lebanon

The very last relic of Israel's unofficial peace treaty with Lebanon - "the end of a chapter of illusions," Mr Yitzhak Rabin the Israeli Labour leader, called it - disappeared from the map yesterday morning when Israel finally closed its government liaison office north of Beirut.

Its 35 diplomats and security men handed over their helicopters at 3 am and flew off over the Mediterranean, leaving behind them a pile of empty ammunition boxes, a scattering of tourist brochures advertising the supposed benefits of Lebanese-Israeli friendship, and a crumpled poster which prematurely announced: "We export our way of life."

The immediate effects of the closure - which became inevitable once the Lebanese authorities decided to withdraw their army protection from the office - are going to be felt by Lebanese civilians wishing to cross the Israeli front line in southern Lebanon.

Lebanese wishing to travel south from Beirut can no longer obtain the laissez-passer documents which the Israelis insist all travellers should carry, and the Israeli Foreign Ministry said in a statement yesterday the

Role of Syrians is condemned

Abrogation of the May 17 agreement "at Syrian dictate" was contrary to the interests of Lebanon itself, Israel's Foreign Ministry said. Israel considered itself free to take steps to maintain its security interests on its northern border and would "continue to maintain contacts with its numerous friends in Lebanon". It would continue to strive for good neighbourly relations with Lebanon in the hope that Lebanon would be free to operate as an independent country.

The closure would "certainly cause damage and much suffering to the Lebanese people". It did not explain why Israel could not simply issue such passes at the military lines along the Awali and Bishri rivers.

The office, in a villa on a small hill at Dhabye, was intended to provide the framework for growing diplomatic and economic relations between Israel and Lebanon. The Israeli head of mission held semi-diplomatic status - the door to his old office yesterday still bore the legend "ambassador" in Hebrew - while a series of

telephone lines connected the Israelis with the Lebanese Cabinet and the Lebanese Defence Ministry.

Yesterday troops from the Army's Seventh Brigade were dismantling the communications equipment beside a driveway littered with torn-up Israeli trade and export magazines. "Do you think it's been fun sitting in this dump?" One of the Lebanese Army guards asked as he packed yesterday morning. "It's all a political game."

The Israelis adopted a more dignified attitude. They formally shook hands with the Lebanese soldiers who had been guarding them and thanked them for their protection. They left no memorials behind, which was itself an historic precedent. For just behind the cliff on which the villa stands lies the Dog River, whose rock walls are covered in the stone plaques erected by the armies which have occupied Lebanon: the Assyrians, the Roman Third Gallic Legion, the 21st British Corps in 1918, the French Army in 1920.

What the Israelis left behind was a series of brand-new open-top military trucks which were shipped into Lebanon in the past week and duly presented to the Phalange.

Australia denies East Timor spy flights

From Our Correspondent, Melbourne

The federal Government has denied claims that Australia had been sending spy flights over East Timor.

Mr Bill Hayden, the Foreign Minister, said yesterday that it was possible that drug runners or opponents of the Indonesian occupation of the former Portuguese colony were responsible for the flights.

The allegation was made by Mr John Lombard, a senior reporter with Radio Australia, on the ABC television programme *Nationwide* on Tuesday night. Mr Lombard said the flights were raised by the Indonesian Foreign Minister, General Murdani, when he met Mr Hayden in Jakarta earlier this month.

Mr Hayden was angry when he arrived at Parliament House in Canberra yesterday morning. "It is the most outrageous lie I've ever heard," he said.

It was "outrageously irresponsible to draw the Australian defence forces into this matter in the way in which it has been done. It generates tension and

suspicion and creates more difficulties, especially when the Defence Minister has categorically denied the allegations."

However, later Mr Hayden admitted that the flights had been raised by the Indonesian Foreign Minister during their talks. He had said that Indonesian radar had detected unscheduled flights by aircraft coming from the south-east and that they did not appear to be military aircraft. They were either piston-engined or turbo-prop aircraft and were too small to have come from Manila, Hawaii or Singapore.

Mr Hayden said that he had assured the Indonesians that the aircraft were not Australian military or government aircraft. He said the Defence Department, the federal police and customs were investigating the possibility that the aircraft were Australian.

Mr Hayden's anger over the issue is a measure of the delicate state of relations between Australia and Indonesia over East Timor.

Bombs on first day of Tamil general strike

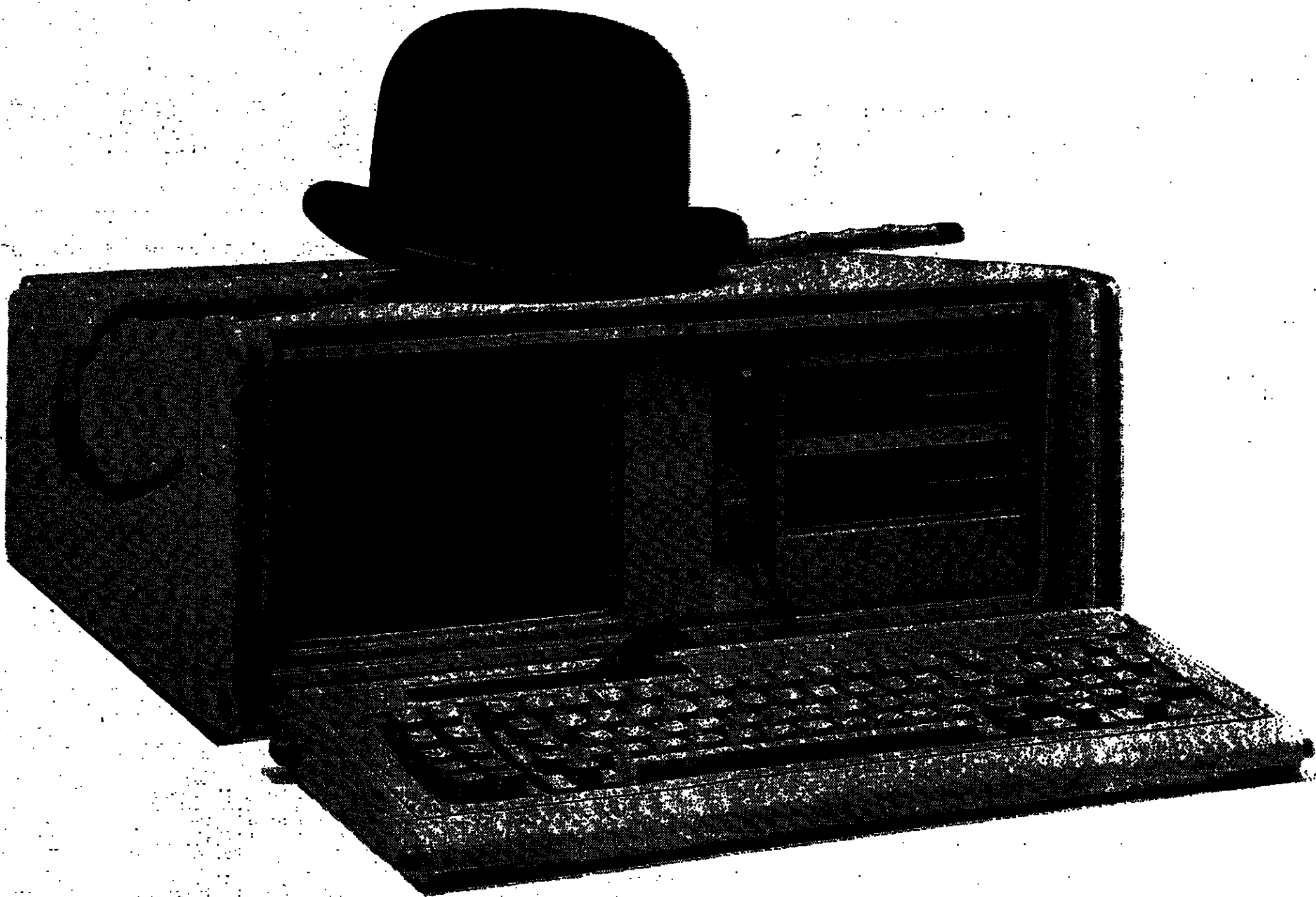
From Donovan Moldrick
Colombo

Bombs exploded twice at the central bus stand at Jaffna in the Northern Province of Sri Lanka yesterday at the start of a two-day general strike, called by the Tamil United Liberation Front in a week of mourning to mark the first anniversary of the riots of last year.

Police attributed the explosions which caused little damage to groups of separatists who last week called for a three-day general strike and gave warning that they would deal with anyone seen on the streets.

A government minister said yesterday that the incidents that took place on Monday afternoon, when Tamil United Liberation Front leaders were staging a fast at a Hindu temple, showed that militant young people had taken over leadership of the front in the north.

The youths exploded three bombs near the temple and shipped water on the spot where the Tamil leaders were to have fasted.



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SPECTRUM

The boy who became superman

The Times Profile:
Daley Thompson

Rain beats at the lone figure forcing himself around the track. Rain and sweat soak his close-cropped Afro haircut and his thick black moustache.

He will run three laps around the 400-metre track, just fast enough to cause pain. He will allow himself exactly 10 minutes to recover, then he will do it again, and again and again.

Daley Thompson, the decathlon champion, went to the campus of the University of California at Irvine last September to prepare for the Olympics in Los Angeles. He is expected to win.

Thompson is a natural sprinter, just over 6ft tall with immense shoulders, broad chest and thickly muscled thighs and calves on a 13½st frame. He covers 100 metres in 10.4 seconds, less than a half-second behind the world record and faster than any of his Olympic competitors.

But sets of 1,200 metres are agony. "It makes me feel like I never want to run again," he says, fighting for breath between sets. "I hate it."

Yet he knows it is the only way. In 1983 a back sprain, then a groin injury kept him from serious training for six months, but he entered the world championships in Helsinki that summer and won.

"I'd been training for eight years", he says. "That gives you a reserve. But you only have so much in the bank." Now he's back on the track, extending himself and rebuilding the reserve.

Thompson, now 25, dominates the sport. He has not lost a decathlon since the summer of 1978, when he had just turned 20. He has won the 1980 Moscow Olympics, the 1982 Commonwealth Games and European championships, and last year's Helsinki championships.

No American is within shouting distance. Even Jürgen Hingsen of West Germany, who has twice broken Thompson's world record, has not finished within 100 points in six head-to-head competitions.

"Actually, I don't think that's an accurate indication of our relative abilities", says Thompson. He pauses for effect, then

adds: "All things considered, we're more like 200 points apart."

There is no smile, just the hint of a disarming twinkle in his eye. The combination of charm and irreverence has brought him a remarkable level of celebrity in the Commonwealth and throughout Europe.

People are taken, not only with his winning but with the way he wins. They are excited by his display of emotion, the fist pumped into the air in victory, the despair at a poor performance.

Thompson's event contributes to his aura. In a time of ultraspecialization in sports the decathlon represents the Renaissance ideal of balance.

Its superheros - Jim Thorpe, Bob Mathias, Bruce Jenner - were not the greatest runners or jumpers or strongest athletes of their time.

Their test of physical and mental endurance came, over two days of competition: 100-metre sprint, long jump, shot put, high jump and 400-metre run the first day; 110-metre hurdles, discus, pole vault, javelin and 1,500-metre run the second.

We may never think about the decathlon between Olympics. But its victors deserve the title, the world's greatest athletes.

Thompson was born in 1958 to a Nigerian father and a Scottish mother in Notting Hill Gate, west London. Lydia Thompson still lives in the neighbourhood.

"That child was a terror from the minute he was born", she says, with traces of her native Dundee in her speech. "He was hyperactive. Later, he was always getting into fights."

Too much energy and too much anger. "I just couldn't keep up with him", his mother recalls. At seven he was sent off to a state-approved boarding school south of London. He was the only black pupil there.

Farmy Close is a seventeenth-century country estate, complete with acres of woodland and its own lake. Thompson says today that at first he felt abandoned and miserable. Then he discovered sports. It was an acceptable way of



Muscling in: Thompson charges over hurdles, vaults on the pole and puts the shot

discharging all that angry energy. As long as he won, everything seemed better - it even helped to ease his pain when his father died in 1971.

And Daley was a winner. At one point, the headmaster felt compelled to limit students to two individual events and one relay. "Daley was never vicious", recalls George Money, one of the teachers, "but he never let up."

By the time Thompson left Farmy Close at 16, he was popular and self-confident, a young man in control of his life.

Back in London, Thompson enrolled in a small college, but classroom studies were far from his mind - he wanted an educational grant to help to support him while he trained. His only goal was to become England's fastest sprinter. He joined the Essex Beagles

Athletic Club at the invitation of Robert Mortimer, a track coach who saw him as more than just another fast child. "With his power, speed and determination", he said, "he could be a great decathlete."

Thompson resisted. "A lot of blood and tears were shed", recalls Dave Baptiste, Thompson's running partner with the Beagles. "Sprints were a bit of a muchness, and we were the two hot boys. It brought the club - and ourselves - a lot of publicity. He didn't want to give that up."

Thompson also knew the decathlon would make greater demands on him than he had ever known.

Learning the decathlon is a staggering task. While some of the events are relatively uncomplicated - the 100 and 400,

for example - the javelin and pole vault take years to master.

Thompson's decision to undertake such a commitment was not welcome at home; his mother wanted her son to work. Ultimately, she told him to get a job or get out. He left.

"The streets were full of athletes like him", says Lydia Thompson. "I had no idea what his potential was, or where it would lead."

The man who took Thompson through the formidable learning process was the coach Bruce Longden. Late in 1975, Thompson moved in with Longden and his wife Sue, for a year. "We trained every day", Thompson recalls. "We talked athletics 25 hours a day - about everybody's technique and style, about races. Then we'd watch films of the races."

The challenge of the decathlon is great by design. It was introduced to the Olympics at Stockholm in 1912, with the clear intention of giving nations other than the United States a chance at some track-and-field medals.

Only the Germans and Scandinavians were experienced in the event. The design failed, however: the American Jim Thorpe won the first decathlon, and Americans have taken nine of 14 Olympic decathlons since.

Thorpe practised the events of the decathlon for a few months before the Olympics. Now every competitor in the Olympic decathlon trains for four solid years. Those few who become truly competitive - scoring at least 8,500 points - usually take six years.

Daley Thompson was different. In 1976, when he was 17, he reached 7,684 points, qualifying for the Montreal Olympics. He finished eighteenth in a field of 28.

The following years, in Madrid, he became the youngest man ever to score 8,000 points. And in 1978, he won at the Commonwealth Games in Edmonton, Canada, with 8,468 points. He had been a decathlete for three years.

A month later Thompson

arrived in Prague for the European championships. The field was packed with top athletes but he was supremely confident. He built up a big lead the first day - and then lost. The experience was devastating.

"I've never considered suicide", he said, "but I would think that's how people feel. Suddenly it's worse than it's ever been and you can't imagine it getting better."

That Christmas season of 1979 was a good one for Thompson. He had confronted his worst fears, and survived. He was doing what he wanted to do - training and competing.

Thompson had finished school and his education grant had been replaced by a stipend from the Sports Aid Foundation, which supports top amateur athletes.



Thompson dominates the sport. He has not lost a decathlon since 1978 when he had just turned 20

Golden moment in Moscow

His clothing needs - sweat suits, shorts and the 10 kinds of shoes required for the 10 decathlon events - were supplied by Adidas. Hertz gave him free use of a car.

Unlike most athletes on the verge of celebrity, Thompson knew just how lucky he was, and he was determined not to spoil things. No cigarettes, alcohol or drugs for him - and no impatience about getting rich.

Combined Events Cup the following year in Birmingham. "I told them I couldn't guarantee I'd compete, he said. 'They said if I didn't promise they'd stop my money. I said, 'OK then, that's it.'"

Actually, nobody wanted to compete in Birmingham more than Thompson, but ordering him made it impossible.

For Thompson, California has long represented a kind of training paradise. He has been

going there since the winter of 1978, visiting Richard Slaney, working out with other British friends, spending eight or ten weeks far from the weather and personal pressures of London.

Thompson arrived nearly 10 months before the Olympics, with no plans to leave until after he had won his second gold medal.

Changes in the rules governing amateur sports now permit product endorsement, and Thompson holds lucrative contracts with Fabergé, Adidas and other companies.

But he complains about the calls he receives everyday from London about business arrangements. "I don't need to make more money", he says. "I need to train - nothing else."

Even training has its problems. He has no professional coach. He has been working out with John Crist, one of the top Americans in the decathlon, although 600 points behind him.

Every morning, Thompson pores over his books and journals on exercise and technique, grabs a breakfast of cereal and milk and is at the track by 10.30 am. He breaks for lunch at about 1.30 pm returns by 3 pm and works until dark.

At the Olympics, Thompson will be trying to beat one of the oldest records in the Games, Bob Mathias's two decathlon gold medals, won in 1948 and 1952.

"If Thompson wins in Los Angeles", Mathias told me, "and I think he will, I'm going to jump the fence and congratulate the guy. I'll tell him, 'Daley, I'm the only American who's won it twice.'"

Thompson is not, however, likely to be satisfied with a victory in Los Angeles. After Los Angeles, there will be Seoul in 1988.

Skip Rozin

© New York Times 1984

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR THE BRITISH AIRPORTS AUTHORITY.

Traffic - passenger traffic reached a record level of 45.9m, up 5.7% over previous year.

Profits - the 1983/4 financial year produced a record trading profit of £51.6m for the British Airports Authority.

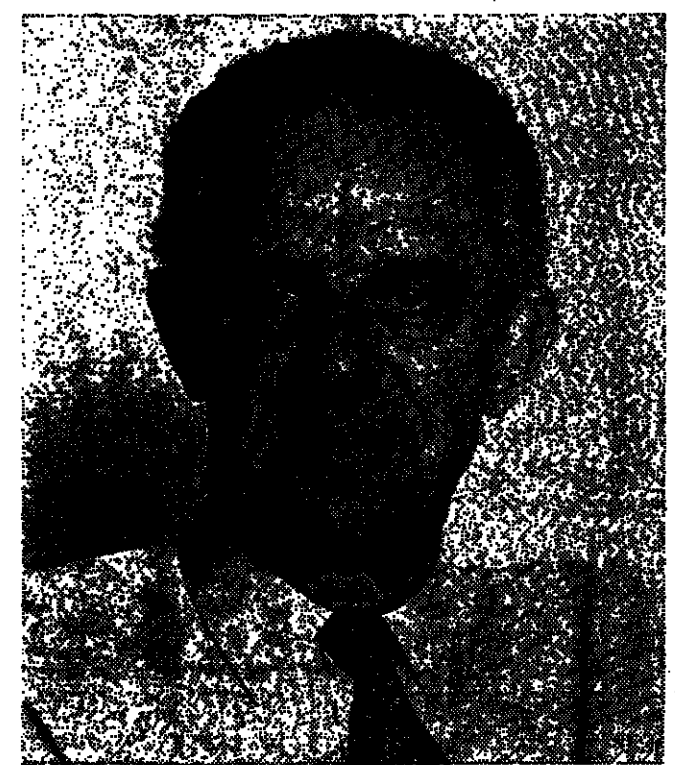
Commercial achievement - revenue from trading concessions showed substantial growth of 17%.

Productivity - productivity improved considerably during the year with a real reduction in costs per passenger of 5%.

Capital investment - during the year the BAA invested £132m in facilities, the highest figure ever.

Taxation - following the 1984 Finance Bill which reduces initial allowances on major capital investments to nil by 1986, a substantial sum has been transferred from reserves to meet deferred tax liability.

If you would like a copy of the Annual Report and Accounts please write to the Librarian, BAA Head Office, Gatwick Airport, West Sussex RH6 0HZ.



Norman Payne CBE, FEng, Chairman BAA

	1983/84 £m	1982/83 £m	% Change
Total Income	316.2	283.7	+11.5
Total Expenditure	264.6	245.1	+8.0
Current Cost Trading Profit	51.6	35.0	+47.4
Return on Average Net Assets	5.4%	3.9%	-
Capital Expenditure	132.4	98.3	+34.7
Foreign Currency Earnings	81.2	77.2	+5.2

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Meanwhile, in the underwater wrestling

British Olympic Hopefuls
No 27: Sylvia Medley (Nordic Pentathlon)

"I've got to admit that if the Russians and East Germans were coming, I wouldn't have a chance. As it is, in their absence, I really think I still don't have much of a chance. But at least there'll be more room in the swimming pool."

So says Sylvia Medley, our top performer in the little known Nordic Pentathlon, and it's that combination of endearing defeatism plus enormous optimism plus willingness to talk to the press for sums of money that marks the modern athlete. Britain is sending its largest team ever - at least 80 officials, plus as many athletes as we have space for - and Sylvia realizes that some sports are more glamorous than others.

She says: "The middle-distance running, the decathlon, the women's boxing - these are the golden events. Nobody pays much attention to the clay pigeon moulding, underwater canoeing, uphill tug-of-war, things like that, and I'm afraid that the Nordic Pentathlon doesn't get any coverage at all. Funny, though, when you consider that it's one of the oldest events in the book."

The Nordic Pentathlon is a gruelling combination of swimming, diving, wrestling, weight-lifting and a fashion parade. It is based on the typical demands that might be met in one day by a Norwegian swimming pool attendant.

The weight-lifting represents

moreover...
Miles Kington

both clearing heavy equipment and removing unconscious swimmers from the pool, while wrestling represents clearing conscious swimmers who are contravening by-laws.

Sylvia says: "The fashion parade, reflecting the need for swimming pool attendants to be properly turned out, is something that British competitors have always done well at. Hardy Amies has been designing our costumes for years now and this year he has chosen a smart three-piece swim-suit, with wet-look waistcoat, a Tyrolean-type hat and stunning two-tone flippers."

"It's the other four events, unfortunately, which have traditionally let us down." Sylvia thinks she should be at her peak in Los Angeles but her training got off to a bad start last year. Was this because of the traditional lack of facilities in Britain, which have stood us in such bad stead in the past?

"As a consequence, I got a job at a wonderful new swimming pool near me, as a pool attendant, and that was the trouble. Pools attendants just don't get to do any swimming or diving or whatever - all we ever do is stride around the pool or sit on the steps, looking brown and blowing whistles at people."

"We get much more practice as regular customers, so when I had saved up enough money as

an attendant I resigned and started coming as a paying member of the public, making enough trouble to get in a lot of underwater wrestling."

The wrestling is under water, is it?

"Oh yes. So is the weight-lifting. So is the fashion parade, come to that. I believe it is the only Olympic sport in which the judges are under water as well. And of course the wrestling will

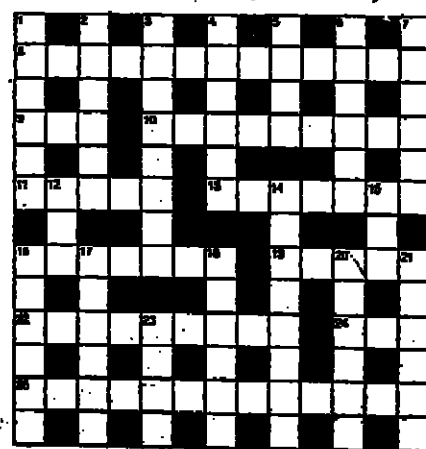
be a tremendous bonus in LA, in case I meet any muggers. Underwater muggers, that is."

Sylvia will meet fierce competition from the Scandinavian nations, the Canadians, the New Zealanders and the Icelanders.

Tomorrow's talking-point: The object is not to win but to take drugs. We look at British entrants for the analbolic steroid events.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 403)

- ACROSS
8 Waste dealer (5,5)
9 Elm's product (5)
10 Tobacco abstainer (5,6)
11 Incident (5)
13 Fast train (7)
16 Guillotine cart (7)
19 Leaves out (5)
22 Unconventional (9)
24 Officers' high award (1,1,1)
25 Venice prisoners' bridge (6,2,5)
DOWN
1 Asotic Judaism cultist (6)
2 Broad soft accent (6)
3 Old maid (8)
4 Spiritualist meeting (6)
5 Worshippers group (9)
6 Fishing vessel (6)
7 Region (6)
12 Operator's stress (1,1,1)
14 Move forward (8)
15 Five far points (3)
16 Soft hat hair (9)
17 Border (6)
18 Lounge about (6)
19 Run dry (6)
21 Liverpoolian (6)
23 Fledge (4)



SOLUTION TO No 402

ACROSS: 1 Rooster 4 Regime 7 Capt 8 Victims 9 Assorted 13 Hat 16 Hans Robinson 17 Mo 19 Embassy 24 Walmington 25 Goat 26 Byline 27 Lawyer
DOWN: 1 Rack 2 En passant 3 Xaver 4 Recco 5 Gino 6 Mulla 10 Ochre 11 Trout 12 Drive 13 Hesitancy 14 Tank 15 Sham 18 Ovary 20 Nerve 21 Regal 22 Kelp 23 Star

هكذا من الناحية

BOOKS

English ranting and quaking with God

James Fenton reviews
Christopher Hill on
the English Revolution

THE EXPERIENCE OF DEFEAT
Milton and Some Contemporaries
By Christopher Hill
Faber, £12.50

In *The World Turned Upside Down* (1972) Christopher Hill gave a portrait of the revolution within the English Revolution; this was the world of the Levellers, Ranters, and Quakers, radical thinkers both in the religious and in the political sphere. Indeed it was clear that any distinction between religion and politics had for a while been abandoned. This world comes over extremely attractive, daring in its ways of thought, revelling in its freedom and fiercely individualistic.

For my own part I am certain that, had I lived in the seventeenth century, I should have joined the Ranters, who thought among other things that Holy Communion should be a full meal, with lots to drink. "Why do they not say their prayers before a pipe of tobacco?" a good Quaker? "One thing about Ranters was, if consumed they would profess to have given up their beliefs; only to continue being Ranters in secret." You could never be sure that someone was an ex-Ranter. Martyrdom was not their thing. They preferred a kind of ecstasy of smoke or drink, drunkenness being "a help to see Christ the better by."

Hill's book was written with a catchy enthusiasm. It often appears, particularly from his account of such figures as Winstanley, that the seventeenth-century was the last era in which the English Christians spoke a word of sense. The following study, *Milton and the English Revolution* (1977) was prefaced with a vigorous attack on a certain English school's view of Milton, the poet denigrated and written off by the likes of Leavis. It was crucial to understand Milton as the revolutionary poet, and to do that you had to see his ideas in their context.

That context turned out to be the world turned upside down - that is to say, Milton was shown to be in dialogue with the radicals of the previous book, sharing many of their ideas. One crucial feature of Hill's reading, both of Milton and of others, is his awareness of the effect of censorship on modes of expression. Generally speaking the period of the English Revolution enjoyed a unique

combination of freedom of expression, and availability of the means of publication. But in the period both preceding and following it, writers were obliged to find ways of wrapping up their thoughts so as to avoid nasty consequences.

Lyricism belongs to the pre-revolutionary period, the great poems to the post-Restoration world in which almost all number of the radicals were dead in prison, in exile or in some way suppressed. *The Experience of Defeat* looks amongst other things, at the meaning of *Samson Agonistes*, Milton's greatest gesture of defiant faith. The ostensive subject of this study, then, is that moment at which God seemed to hide his face and the hopes of the radicals were dashed.

But there is also a sense of Hill answering his critics, explicitly in the introduction and elsewhere by implication, piling up evidence for his views and correcting previous mistakes of emphasis where appropriate. As to the argument between the historians, I do not know the so-called "revisionist" theory and cannot say whether Hill is fair to it in summary: the revisionists attempt to deny that there was a Revolution; the gentry did not want civil war; there was simply a period of incompetence and chaos until the return to "normality" in 1660. Hill is supposed to have exaggerated the importance of the radicals in *The World Turned Upside Down*, and therefore his view of Milton might be suspected of crankiness.

One might guess, however, that if one set of historians is looking at what happened in Whitehall, and another lot is rooting around the forests and boglands to find the rural milieu of masterless men who kept alive the traditions of the Lollards, then two different kinds of history book are going to get written; and that this is exactly what Hill himself said at the beginning of the first book in this trilogy. I also sometimes feel, when reading a saintly snooty review of Hill, that there is an element of jealousy at play in the critic. Sexual jealousy indeed. Hill's seventeenth-century is extremely sexy, intellectually and imaginatively, as well as quite literally. (How often polygamy is raised as an issue.) The historian-opponent who has to say, "Oh no, it wasn't nearly as sexy as that," is hardly the bearer of very interesting tidings. There are moments in the latest book when Hill seems to be demonstrating that he can, by the way, be boring as well, if he sets his mind to it.

This is not, then, a book for the general reader, although the more persistent intellectual scavengers will find some characteristically fascinating things. I liked the account of Henry Stubbe, sometimes Under-Library-Keeper at the Bodleian, who in the years after the Restoration wrote, but did not publish an account of Mahometanism. The argument begins, as so much of the radical theology seems to, with a discussion of primitive Christianity.

The early Christians did not believe in Christ's divinity, but they did believe in his second coming, the argument runs. Turning a man into a God was a characteristically pagan way of thought. So was the invention of the Lord's Supper, and so was the establishment of the Church. Always and priesthood come in under Constantine, and the triumph of the Trinitarians and the persecution of supposed heretics. The whole church was a ghastly error.

So far so normal, in terms of seventeenth-century radical theology. Now comes the original bit. Stubbe believed that Mahomet formed his religion in close imitation of a

separate branch of Christianity, which had maintained its primitive character. Mahomet believed in the second coming of Christ, but he thought all Trinitarians would be condemned to hell. The advantage of Mahometanism was that it did not clog up your face with abstract incomprehensible notions. It didn't fly in the face of reason. It was against idolatry and expensive ceremonies. It was in favour of polygamy and divorce. In other words, it was a revival of true primitive Christianity (which had probably, incidentally, only forbidden polygamy to bishops).

Perhaps the most surprising recommendation of Mahometanism was that it was in Stubbe's view, based on absolute toleration. A tantalizing sentence: "It is indeed more the interest of the princes and nobles than of the people which at present keeps all Europe from submitting to the Turks," leads Hill to ask himself to what extent this opinion was held in private, in the years after the Restoration. Was it true, as one of his sources claims, that many people wanted the Turks to overrun Christendom "in order to gain their liberty"? Would they, like Cavalier's barbarians, present a kind of solution?

Hill does not press the point. For the most part, those who sought consolation for defeat seem to have looked to an idea of the working of Providence in history. The events of 1640-60 had been so momentous that they required an explanation in terms of the working of God's will. If the world suddenly appeared to be turned upside down, if later Cromwell appeared to be thwarting this possibility, and if eventually the monarchy was restored, one had to understand that this was characteristic of the workings of Providence. At the time events might be incomprehensible. Later, when the meaning would become clear. This is of course the message of the last chorus in Milton's play.

This detecting of Providence at work may explain some of the superficially inconsistent attitudes. Events were of such a stupendous character that they required



some accommodations. The groups who formed such a picturesque feature of the world turned upside down survived only if they recognized this. Out of the era of the just war, in which men were not averse to killing, like Samson for God, emerged the Quakers with their peace principle. And as they survived, they rewrote history. Out goes the prophet, James Nayler, who rode into Bristol on an ass, with William Erery's daughter strewing palms in his path and crying "Holy, Holy, Holy". In comes the Protestant work ethic and pacifism. There is something wonderfully astute about the Quakers. They and the Muggletonians (who also adopted pacifism) were the only sects from the interregnum to survive into our era. But the last Muggletonian - this is a typical Christopher Hill fact - died in 1795.

Quick singles and batsmen of the short story

FICTION

Nicholas
Shakespeare

THE BRIGADIER IN
SEASON
By Peter Timmiswood
Macmillan, £5.95

FILTHY ENGLISH
By Jonathan Meades
Cape, £7.95

DIVIDING LINES
By Victor Sage
Chatto & Windus, £8.95

of anger - at batsmen kissing and cuddling over a measly 50 - but overall he is sustained more by his likes than his dislikes. It sounds better than it is because Timmiswood is a master of the one-liner, but the result, alas, is not nearly as funny as in previous volumes. The Brigadier has lost control of length and line and reads like a watered down version of *Dear Bill*. By the end of his latest innings one felt compelled, regrettably, to raise not one finger, but two.

Amongst other things, Jonathan Meades writes a restaurant column, which results in official trips. In this his first volume of short stories, his agreeably warped mind continues to be fascinated by the stomach and all that shatters therein. The world he inhabits is occupied - and contaminated - by characters who are "emotionally stunted and culturally bereft" ("rudimentary" is a favourite word of Meades). There's a New Forest "scrape" in which a man, who is a bit of a snob, is attracted to a girl who is a bit of a slut. There's a man who is a bit of a snob, who is attracted to a girl who is a bit of a slut. There's a man who is a bit of a snob, who is attracted to a girl who is a bit of a slut.

man who murders, then eats his lover after catching him "bouncing high in sodomitical abandon" with a Moroccan boy. (For animal lovers, there's even a shagging dog story told by the canine star of porno movies like *Hot Dog*, *Sausage Dog* and *Alsatian and Lorraine*.) Into this brew, dense with the imagery of exorcism, is stirred a lot of learned references (the title story, about a lexicographer who tries to find out the meaning of his surname, is unwittingly or not a Borges pastiche) and any number of synonyms for chattering, leaf-mould, mucus and ooze. If Meades's language is so powerful that it reeks of untreated athlete's foot, it also has an organic, not to say fungal, life of its own. The best of the book, self-renewing, but at its bottom there was matter that had been there for years in a state of perpetual metamorphosis and unrecognizable now as yoke, lights, hoof, cabbage.") Combined with his fetishism, this has the effect of suffocating each of the seven stories. Whatever narrative bones exist - and there are no bones in tripe - they are swallowed up by squabbling, bobbing, burping prose so that we are left with the vision of a single world. For the unquiescent, it's still a marvelously potent vision.

Victor Sage's first collection of stories displays a similar interest in stunted misfits. Where the narrator in Meades' worlds ever present, haltingly so, the tellers of Sage's tales are unworldly, except as a joke. But it is a brilliant, witty and serious joke, full of the touches later developed into a whole game of verbal tennis in the novels. Apart from such foreshadowings, Beckett's finest verses are in French, among them the outstanding:

setting, ambivalent creatures, all of them, stranded and exposed in a Noman's Land between the poles of masculine and feminine, between the state of child and adult. A dwarf librarian with an olive-green cardigan he once saved Freud from bleeding to death. An infant prodigy, whose size never changes, explains in a story without much internal logic, how through regular baby-switching he rotates parents every few years. There's a man who is pursued all his life by his nickname, even after becoming a transvestite, and in *Nada* the most successful story, set in Franco's Spain, there's someone who grows up not knowing which sex he is. What mars *Dividing Lines* is its reliance on bookish - readings - the - dwarf shows a heavily-scored reference to himself in Dr Jones's biography of Freud; feeding ill after a mushroom stew, a man spots the dog-eared passage describing the killer fungi *amanita virosa*. Such derivative twists - smacks of Herbert van Thal and his Pan books of horror stories and depict unfairly from a genuine talent to disturb and disorientate.

Westerners peering into the mysteries of the Soviet Union often end up projecting their own fears and fantasies onto the darkened glass behind which the Russians obscure themselves. Of course there are lots of honest seekers after truth blundering around in justifiable confusion but at each end of the spectrum things get odder.

At one end are those whose yearning for the dawn of human brotherhood leads them to see their own hopes embodied in Soviet ideology. Their numbers have been considerably reduced by the accumulating evidence of Soviet reality. At the other end are those who find in the darker side of Soviet life a reflection of their own fears, hates, and sense of sin. They have had a bit of a resurgence in the United States among religious fundamentalists, who use the Soviet threat to promote moral regeneration in the West, or seek to reinforce their own virtue by making the Soviet Union the source of all evil in the world.

Amid these swirling fantasies Mr Crankshaw has long had a record of keeping his head, large because he has always had his feet firmly planted in Soviet reality. On his first arrival in Archangel in 1941, superbly described in this collection of his writings, he watches the squalid confusion on the quay and the senseless drowning of a horse. He becomes "so sick and angry that my first sight of a convict gang being led away from the docks did not move me at all". He has observed "the automatic transformation of the kindest people in the world into utterly self-centred and obnoxious beasts when it comes to survival even in its most trivial and impermanent aspects - such as who shall get the last place on the tram". For Russia, he concedes, really is a place where the devil takes the hindmost.

His sense of the reality and tragedy of Russia has made his political and historical writings among the most distinguished in Britain. He knows the black side, the cruelty, lying and "instinctive expansionism", but none of this makes him a friend of today's cold warriors. Indeed, his reason for printing this collection is that he finds questions being asked by younger generations which he had imagined settled for ever.

His message is that the Soviet Union is not much more than old Russia still playing at power politics. We should not get too excited about it. Even recently, he argues, nothing that has happened in Afghanistan,

What new under the Red sun?

Richard Davy

PUTTING UP WITH THE
RUSSIANS, 1947-1984
By Edward Crankshaw
Macmillan, £12.95

Poland, Angola or the arms race should in any way change the picture of the Soviet Union built up over the past 40 years. "Of course there was and still is a menace of sorts and one to be taken seriously and quietly: our old friend Russian imperialism, given a new cutting edge by modern armaments and driven by a combination of fear, greed and a cock-eyed political philosophy". But it is a fact of life, like the weather, and we have to live with it.

The Russians will not go away or collapse or be defeated. Neither will they take over the world or even attack us directly, for the Soviet Union, says Mr Crankshaw, is not a dynamic power but a "deliberately crippled country" run by frightened men without vision, imprisoned by their refusal to face the truth about the past or the present. It will take advantage of Western weakness but is not likely to take much

initiative of its own, for although it is stronger than it was, "I do believe that the minds behind the hands are no more decisive than the minds of their czarist predecessors: infinitely dogged in defence, aggressive in short bursts".

Mr Crankshaw's reviews are also included in this book, which ranges widely over history, culture and contemporary politics. This is right not only because they have the same lasting quality as his political writings but also because nobody can begin to understand Soviet politics without trying to understand the culture of Russia. Very little is new here: not the labour camps, the cruelty and the demoralization, nor the missionary zeal. Nor, too, the unquenchable spirit of survival and regeneration which keeps alive some hope for Russia's future even in the sceptical breast of Mr Crankshaw. His book is salutary, informative, and very good reading.

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POETRY

Robert Nye

It is the nature of man that puzzles me,
As I walk from Saint James's Square to
Charing Cross
The police mechanicals are going home,
I understand their condition and their
loss.

He belongs among those poets who have used the twists and turns of common speech to say things not commonly said. There is an authority to these words in this order. They fix themselves in the head and change the way we read the world and other poets. Perhaps it is worth adding that when I first encountered his work, more than twenty years ago, it had no immediate emotional or intellectual appeal, and indeed I thought that I disliked it. Then one day I was compelled to the realization that I had whole tracts of this delightful stuff by heart. This is another trait of major poetry, I suspect: it works on and in the reader, even when he or she does not identify with

what it seems to be saying. Samuel Beckett's *Collected Poems 1930-1978* (John Calder, £8.95) is the work of another unmistakably major writer who was never quite born as a poet until he found himself in prose. Such a piece as "Whoroscope" (winner of the Nancy Cunard £10 Competition for the best poem on the subject of Time in the summer of 1930) is now untranslatable except as a joke. But it is a brilliant, witty and serious joke, full of the touches later developed into a whole game of verbal tennis in the novels. Apart from such foreshadowings, Beckett's finest verses are in French, among them the outstanding:

Interestingly anticipates the sparse yet lyrical techniques and procedures of Beckett's later fictions. The result is sometimes pure Apollinaire (*The most modern European is you Pope Pius X*), sometimes pure Beckett (*The love I endure is like a syphilis*), always pure delight. This confirms my suspicion that the twentieth century did not begin until round about 1915 and then only in Paris.

Sebastian Barker's *A Nuclear Epiphany* (Friday Night Fish Publications, 22a Lawford Road, London NW5 2LN, £2 paperback) is another rhapsodic outpouring by an extraordinarily gifted young man who seems utterly at the mercy of his own talents. Mr Barker is a sort of latterday Kit Smart, singing and shouting but above all praying at the top of his voice. As Dr Johnson said of Smart, I'd as soon pray with him as with anyone else. In other words, I think this chap is the real thing, some kind of visionary - Poetry is the medium of the complex quality of the bliss.

The changeling who grew up but never grew old

Patric Dickinson

CHARLOTTE MEW AND
HER FRIENDS
By Penelope Fitzgerald
Collins, £12.95

Charlotte Mew was tiny. There was a sort of farouche oddness about her, and how she dressed, and moved, and had short hair. As she stalked into The Poetry Book Shop, for the first time, in November 1915, Harold and Alida Monro had no idea what to expect. She was asked, "Are you Charlotte Mew?" and she answered, "I'm sorry to say I am." Was this serious? Alida got to know her well; which was very different.

One day as they sat at tea "Lotti" was twisting paper into spools to light her endless cigarettes. Alida saw writing on one; what was it? "I'm turning up my work. I don't know what else to do with it." Mocking? Or truthful? Nobody would ever know. Lotti could be brilliantly funny, dance the can-can in silk knickers to amuse friends in the cabin of a cross-channel steamer; she could be defiant, obdurate, and withdrawn. She published only one book of poems, *The Farmer's Bride*, with The Poetry Book Shop in 1916, a shilling each, and as

Yes, and when it came to sponsoring her for a Civil List Pension her sponsors were Hardy, de la Mare and Massfield.

To write such a perceptive, witty, touching and comprehensible biography - and to write it so very well - is in itself both a marvel and a curiosity, and an achievement of abiding value. Everyone says that you can't write a biography of a genius. Penelope Fitzgerald has, and in doing so she clothes her intimate scholarship and research in the very garments Charlotte Mew would have

worn. It is a feat indeed. Mrs Fitzgerald has managed to present Charlotte Mew with such subtlety that you feel you've read her work, even if you haven't.

She has recorded the ultimately very sorrowful pattern of the Mew family without sentiment but with love. It reads like a Hardy novel and it's no surprise to learn that Hardy was more than a hero; he was also one of her few friends. When she stayed at Max Gate, they were gregarious together. Both had irony; neither could express the lighter sides of life in their art; neither could manage without what sometimes seems a surfeit of gloom and grief. Yet, as one is sure Hardy saw, there is a raw, vivid directness in Charlotte Mew's work that is inescapable and Mrs Fitzgerald makes this clear in her analyses of the short stories, as well as the poems.

Charlotte Mew began her "career" with a short story in *The Yellow Book*, in 1894. She

was born in 1869. (And Sydney Cockerell gently admonished me for getting the date wrong, but so had Alida Monro from whom I got it.) I didn't know then a title of what Penelope Fitzgerald has told so brilliantly.

The work, yes; the person, only a little. As in that devastating sonnet of Meredith's in which the wife has taken poison, "Letha had closed those lips and he knew all", so Charlotte Mew freed herself from her own lost life by drinking Lysol in March 1928. It is the imagination that suffices this biography which makes bearable what might not have been. Surrender to Mew and Fitzgerald becomes an honour.

I shall grow up, but never grow old.
I shall always be very cold.
I shall never come back again.

So wrote Charlotte Mew in *The Changeling*, and a kind of changeling she was; but she has never gone and, as I believe, never will.

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THE TIMES DIARY

Royal launch

Following the film debut of the Princess of Wales' brother Viscount Althorp - as a public schoolboy in a bath scene - I can now reveal the forthcoming debut of her step-brother Adam Shand Kydd into the somewhat more respectable literary world. Adam, probably the most unknown member of her family, has just written his first novel, *Happy Trails*, which is to be published by Heinemann next month. "It is about two days," said his publishers yesterday, followed by the unprompted response "It's not at all autobiographical". Shand, Kydd, who for the past few years has been struggling in his Holland Park flat to establish himself as a writer - "and, not as Diana's brother" - has set his characters lead a quiet life until, thrown into a nightmare of gangsters, terrorists, psychopathic counter-insurgency experts, young girls, religious delusion... "Yes, it's a comedy."

Biter bit?

Tottenham's Norman Atkinson, one of 25 Labour MPs said to be most at risk of being deselected by their constituents, can hardly complain if he is. In 1977/78, as Labour's treasurer, he denounced the notorious "counter-coup" organized by two Oxford graduates to replace the Cabinet minister Reg Prentice after he had been dropped by his left-dominated Newham North-east constituency. The graduates, backed by the Freedom Association, instigated legal action on the grounds that the left had broken rules in the way key election meetings were convened. Labour spent £20,000 defending the case because, explained Atkinson, "democracy is being threatened". That was Labour's first reselection battle. Atkinson (who still maintains Prentice deserved his fate) backed the busters against the ousted, and now must face the consequences.

Equal rites

Debating the appointment of bishops in the light of David Jenkins' consecration, Church Commissioner Sir William van Straubenzee let slip another possibility for our new bishopric: the woman bishop. As MPs in the chamber began shouting "no" he added, still more mysteriously: "I have to keep the sexual options open."

Lodged ideas

An extraordinary internal report of Ted Knight's ruling Lambeth group, leaked to this column, claims that Masons are "white, male and middle upper-class" that their secretaries support the conspiracy theory of history, "and that they exercise power and influence in the 'background' to block any serious progressive change". Labour must "act to combat the insidious effects of the Masonic connection", and following the lead of Brent Council, all Lambeth councillors and senior officers must make a "positive signed declaration" of their status. What the report conveniently overlooks is that there is, or has been until very recently, a black working-class Masonic lodge within the borough, in Brixton's Railton Road.

BARRY FANTONI



Class war

Like fathers like sons. During the academic year just ended, Skinner Jnr found himself occupying a room in the same corridor in the same hall of residence at Manchester University as Alex, Waugh, son of right-wing columnist Auberon Waugh. One night a friend of Waugh's left off a fire extinguisher in his room. The resident tutor arrived to reprimand Waugh, and witnessed Skinner letting fly with a torrent of verbal abuse. Waugh, said, was "an upper-class twit", and a typical public schoolboy who, as his father's son, deserved all he got. Thereafter Skinner and entourage were so rude to Waugh that he finally quit the hall for a flat.

Golden slumbers

Stockbroker Pamure Gordon's internal newsletter on market trends is usually full of canny advice. So, as the gold market goes haywire, is the bulletin advising to buy or sell? Neither. Beneath the heading "Mining" is half a blank page. When I rang to ask if their gold expert had found the fluctuations all too much, an embarrassed spokesman admitted they did not actually have one at the moment.

PHS

This scientific disaster

By John Maddox

Not so long ago, British governments were forever congratulating themselves that British scientists had what seemed to be an inside track in the competition for Nobel Prizes. Per head of population and by most other yardsticks, the roll of honour has been so ample as to seem endless, even effortless.

For much of the past half-century British scientists, while acknowledging that the statistic is spurious, have enjoyed the kudos that distinction brings and have made a virtue of what seems to have been the perpetual necessity of sustaining research on a shoestring. "If we can achieve so much with only stultic and seagull-wings, what might we not accomplish with the proper tools?"

It will be some time before British scientists are again prominent on the Nobel lists. The Oscar Milstein, the Cambridge Argentinian, will no doubt at some stage be recognized. Justice may also yet be done to Sir Fred Hoyle. Otherwise, there is nothing in the recent record of British research laboratories that lifts the spirit and stretches the imagination as much as the dozen or so outstanding discoveries each year at laboratories elsewhere.

The British scientific community will comfort itself that it is doing the best it can with inadequate resources. British governments will learn to parrot, quite truthfully, that Nobel statistics are spurious, and that it matters more that British

industry should be able to turn a nearly honest penny, devaluing now by only 5 per cent a year.

It is unkind to kick even governments when they are down, as the Thatcher Government has been these past few weeks. But they must be helped to see the errors in their ways. The British Government has lived up to Mrs Thatcher's promise that government support for basic science would be "protected". Why should we now be saying that the stuffing has gone out of the scientific enterprise, and that the Government is to blame?

The novelty that has now arisen is not the shortage of funds for research, acute though that may be, but the way basic research has become a hand-to-mouth struggle. At the highest level, the research councils are for ever having to rejustify their plan to new estimates on how little there will be to spend.

Even in well-equipped laboratories, people who have scraped through this year by running down their stock of consumable materials have no idea what will happen next.

The British Government's palliative for 1983, the scheme for appointing younger academics to university posts (called "new blood" lectureships), has not been matched with the wherewithal to allow these talented people to prosecute effective programmes of research.

Customary British postwar envy of the US is now matched by the knowledge that colleagues and competitors in France and West Germany enjoy a greater sense of security. Even in particle physics, the ground that Rutherford showed two generations of physicists how to till, the future is now clouded: characteristically, nothing has been decided, but the Kendrew committee may recommend next year that Britain should pull out of the European collaboration which it helped to found. Is it any wonder that bright young people are being driven from research in pursuit of a more seemly occupation?

When *Nature* advertised an editorial post earlier this year, nearly half of the 600 qualified scientists who replied had embarked on a career in research. Many were people with their first postdoctoral appointments "behold" them. Their common reason for pulling out was their sense of the insecurity of a position in research.

In an occupation in which dedication does not necessarily win glittering prizes, it seems doubly cruel that even the opportunity to work hard is on a short-term lease.

The most serious source of the financial pressure on research is the collapse of the convention that universities will meet the overhead cost out of the budgets provided by

the University Grants Committee. The research community is not entirely free from blame for what has happened. The research councils, jealous of their autonomy and proud of representing some part of the research community, have shamelessly followed a fashion, as dictated by the Government. If the word goes out that engineering is neglected, the Science Research Council obligingly adds "and Engineering" to its name. If Mr Kenneth Baker, the information technology minister, has a rush of blood to the head, funds are chiselled from budgets already under strain to provide new graduate courses and earmarked grants for research in information technology.

Successive governments have made plain both their impatience with the research enterprise and their inability to understand that its needs are as much psychological as material. Constant harping on the need to conjure prosperity from research would give less offence if it implied less obviously that ingenuity is like water which can be diverted in one direction or another, that an obsession with some problem of the natural world is a kind of treason, and that a young researcher's chagrin that his contemporaries in other countries will be better placed to solve it is sheer self-indulgence.

The author is editor of *Nature*. This article is adapted from an editorial in the latest issue.

The Times and Poetry Review have polled 120 poets on their choice for the next Poet Laureate. Tracey Warr analyses the results

Who will be the next Poet Laureate? A decision may be reached very soon - perhaps before Parliament goes into summer recess next Wednesday - now that recommendations from the literary world have been received. From a shortlist selected by the Prime Minister's appointments secretary she will choose one name to recommend to the Queen.

Recent comment on the vacant laureateship has emphasized that Philip Larkin, librarian at the University of Hull, and at 61 widely considered to be our best living poet, is the strongest candidate, with Gavin Ewart and Roy Fuller as the most serious alternatives. Gavin Ewart writes with great facility (to the point of being facile, some say) and at 72 Roy Fuller is producing some of his best work. Ted Hughes, Charles Causley, D. J. Enright, Geoffrey Grigson, R. S. Thomas, Stephen Spender and Robert Graves have all been seen as other possible choices.

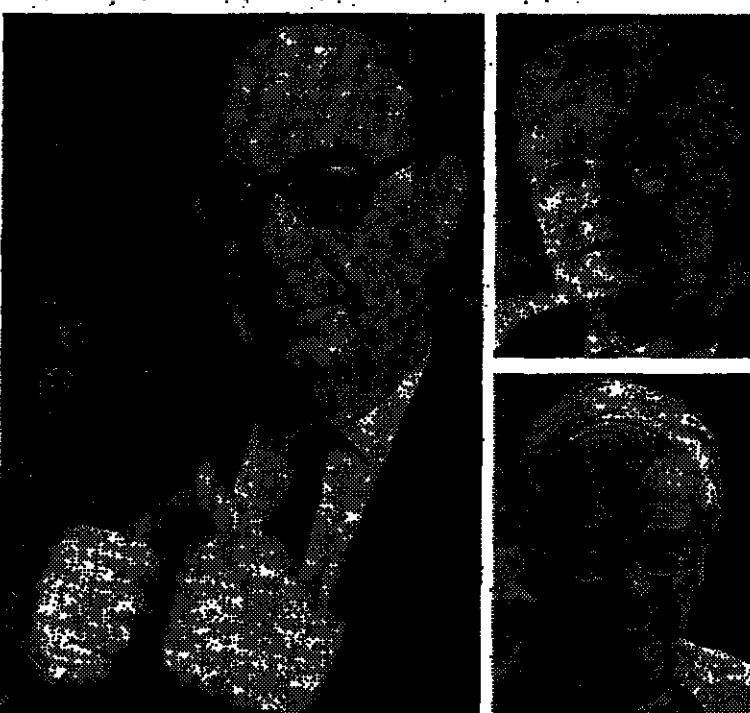
Our poets' poll answered by 120 poets produced a picture which diverged from this picture in an interesting way. Neither Enright nor Grigson received a single vote. R. S. Thomas was immediately ruled out by his own response: "As a Welshman I haven't the slightest interest in the agonizing of the English over this matter." Robert Graves was reluctantly eschewed because of his age (he is 89), illness and expatriation (he lives in Majorca).

Both Gavin Ewart and Roy Fuller received surprisingly little support from their fellow poets, and although Philip Larkin emerged as the clear favourite, Charles Causley and Ted Hughes received substantial proportions of the votes. The results of the poll were as follows:

Philip Larkin	30%
Charles Causley	10%
Ted Hughes	8%
John Heath-Stubs	5%
Kathleen Raine	5%
C. H. Sisson	4%
Gavin Ewart	3%
Roy Fuller	3%
Basel Burnings	2%
Peter Redgrove	2%
Anne Stevenson	2%

Other poets receiving one vote each included Dennis Aase, George Barker, John Cooper Clark, David Gascoyne, Adrian Henri, Norman MacCaig, Adrian Mitchell, Edwin Morgan, Alan Ross, R. S. Thomas and Charles Tomlinson. C. H. Sisson, a poet of high Tory convictions, gained the edge over Ewart and Fuller by voting for himself. (Terence Tiller and Keith Bosley were among other poets employing the same tactic.)

For Gavin Ewart, Peter Porter - *The Observer's* poetry critic, Blake Morrison - deputy literary editor at



Philip Larkin: top of the poll; Kathleen Raine (top): female favourite; C. H. Sisson: voted for himself

Who is the poets' laureate?

The Observer, Anthony Thwaite - the radio and television personality, and Andrew Motion - the *Chato* and *Windus* editor were among Larkin's supporters, while Causley gained support from Ted Hughes, beat poet Brian Patten and D. M. Thomas, author of *The White Hotel*.

Seamus Heaney, being Irish is not among the candidates, but voted for Ted Hughes. Michael Schmidt, who founded the *Manchester* poetry publishers Carcanet, declined to give us his choice: "Whoever the Queen decides," he responded.

One poet declared Larkin to be "too good for the job", but the view that he should be the next Poet Laureate was solidly supported. "Larkin is the natural choice," commented Blake Morrison, "a poet instinctively drawn to the rituals and ceremonies of English life. Those concerned with the appointment would look very silly if he were passed over."

Larkin's poetic persona has been caricatured as unsuitably lugubrious and pessimistic, but his poetry is by no means humourless or unrelentingly bleak. His avoidance of publicity and his meagre poetic output in the last 10 years are points weighed against him by those who

would like to see the laureate as an active representative of poetry, both through his own writing and his public activities.

The poet's second choice, 67-year-old Charles Causley, lives and teaches in Launceston, Cornwall. As well as a considerable body of poetry, Causley's work has included translations, plays and children's poetry books. Causley's poetry may not be comparable to the best work of Larkin, or of Ted Hughes, but his support stems from a desire in some quarters that the Laureateship should not be an honour awarded to the "best" poet, but should go to the poet most suitable as a public representative of poetry.

Ted Hughes, the Yorkshire poet third on the list, is another prolific writer. His main subject is the tremendous energy and vitality found in nature and animals, and he could bring an exciting and unusual approach to royal birthdays and jubilees. Hughes is a powerful public reader, and would also be a vigorous representative of his craft.

John Heath-Stubs and Blake Morrison, who were surprised to find four poets' rather surprising joint fourth choice, Penelope Shuttle's wish "to see serious consideration given to

the appointment of a woman as Laureate" was echoed by a number of other women poets and is reflected in the appearance of two female poets among the 10 favourites.

Supporting his vote for Kathleen Raine, Peter Redgrove wrote: "It would make history to appoint the first woman laureate, and that might appeal to the Prime Minister. More important, women poets seem to have a firmer grasp of the idea of poetry as a transformation of the commonplace and the practice of poetry as a way of living in a marvellous and real world. It's also worth noting that the Government does not reflect the wishes of the mining community as a whole, and has been made possible only by the refusal of the miners' leader to 'act upon the views of a broad membership' which he could have ascertained through the ballot he has denied them."

Furthermore, when Mrs Thatcher, in speaking to her backbenchers, likened the spirit of the anti-Scargill resistance to that which made possible the Falklands defeat of the Galtieri regime, Mr Kinnoch was outraged. But, of course, it was not the miners that Mrs Thatcher was comparing to the Galtieri junta but the bosses who have exploited them and have resisted accountability to their rank-and-file in precisely the manner of a junta, and with the same motivation as that of the constituency machine-politicians whom Mr Kinnoch now exhorts to throw open their reselection processes to a membership ballot.

The explanation for the inconsistency is that a point has been reached in the Labour Party at which Mr Kinnoch has to make a stand, or reconcile himself to a no-hope election in three or four years' time. But what is happening in the NUM is something of which it is easier to

Many poets proposed a limited term of office of between five and 10 years for the Laureate, rather than life. "Nine years," suggested John Mole, "because of the nine muses." Over half, 69 per cent, felt that the current salary of £70 and a butt of sack should be increased to £5,000 or over. (Several answers pointed out that the poet, however, is not an active one, prompting poetry as a contemporary art which is relevant and accessible to everyone.)

Ever since Wordsworth accepted the Laureateship in 1843 at the age of 73 and with his best work (apart from revisions) long behind him, the writing of occasional verse has been an optional part of the Laureate's duties. Of the poets polled, 41 per cent felt that the post should be an honour without any obligation to write ceremonial verse. Others felt that the occasional verse was an element which should be retained. Another 22 per cent were concerned to emphasize the Laureate's role as an active one, prompting poetry as a contemporary art which is relevant and accessible to everyone.

A word of warning, however, about the accuracy of these results. When a similar ballot was conducted among 100 poets before the appointment of Sir John Betjeman in 1972, he won only 11 votes.

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Making the most of your mandarin

Lord Gowrie on the drive for greater efficiency in the Civil Service

tives they will be answerable for their performance.

The Civil Service Minister has to set a sensible framework within which departments and their staff strive to achieve value for money for the public, the customer. Wearing my other hat, as Arts Minister, I have the same preoccupation with making precious - and limited - money go further. I and my civil servants have a duty to deliver any item of public expenditure, be it a grant to a theatre company or a transfer payment in cash to some needy individual, with as little money as possible being lost in administration.

Fine words. But I have been knocking on doors to see that words become reality. I have visited the Customs and Excise "collection" in Manchester to see the results of giving local managers greater financial responsibility. In that office, control of virtually all running costs, including staff costs, has been delegated to managers.

All the managers I talked to welcomed the challenge of additional responsibility and their new freedom to operate within an overall budget. I have been to social security offices in London and met conscientious staff who were proof that a smaller service does not mean a worse one, rather the reverse. The DHSS is 7,000 smaller, but its costs for delivering benefits are 20 per cent lower than in 1979.

The efficiency committees and reviews, which Sir Robin Iles and I direct, contribute to this improve-

ment by rationalizing the working procedures we need and discarding those we do not.

So far, £240m a year has been trimmed from the cost of the service. We are now bringing civil servants more directly into contact with the customer. The DHSS has set up freephone information services in Berkshire and Hampshire, and we have introduced a new, more helpful, procedure for applying for civil jobs.

The Inland Revenue has announced plans for full-scale computerization of the Pay as You Earn system. One traditionally bureaucratic task is form-filling. Too many forms are difficult to understand, redundant, or chillingly impersonal - sometimes all three. One department needed two 10-ton trucks to carry surplus forms from just one store. Sir Ernest Gowrie (whose *Plain Words* is as pertinent as ever) would have applauded our abolition in the last two years of more than 9,000 forms and the redesigning of more than 12,000. All credit to the Home Office, Inland Revenue, Customs and Excise and DHSS, who have won awards from the Plain English Campaign.

Policy, just as much as forms and leaflets, needs to be spelt out clearly too. The political debate becomes clearer, the choices more sharply defined, if the great departments of state know how to tell those who pay for them what they are about and what they are trying to achieve.

This, rather than legislation on the issue, is the sensible way to get more open government.

Financial reforms are about people, not just systems. So to make all this more than a five-year wonder we must direct all careers of civil servants more skilfully, looking well ahead and being prepared to invest in training.

I am introducing clearer staff appraisal; staff will now be judged more in terms of meeting objectives. And we are concentrating on getting more of our potential top managers out of Whitehall, be it on secondment to a local office or business or industry. We are also introducing an intensive course for those entering the very top grades, where civil servants will be trained alongside businessmen.

Often the only attention civil servants get is ill-informed criticism. This is wrong. They should not be exempt from criticism, but neither should they be exempt from credit. I think Shirley Williams was harsh in comparing (in 1979) the effect of the Civil Service to that of an "excellent braking mechanism". In my experience, the vehicle has effective forward gears so long as ministers, and the public who put them in office, know where they want to go.

All politicians are now coming up against a simple and rather uncomfortable truth: the public wants to retain the present mix of public services (as against public industries which is another thing altogether) but at lower cost and what is nowadays called higher "value for money". We have a long way to go but there is no need for anyone to be discouraged at the start that has been made.

The author is Minister of State, Privy Council Office.

Ronald Dutt

The two voices of Mr Kinnoch

The contrast between Mr Neil Kinnoch's letter to his backbenchers on the reselection of Labour MPs and his recent address to Durham miners' gala - where he stood shoulder to shoulder with Mr Scargill, deserves the attention of all politically interested people, but especially of those wishing to understand the reasons for the Labour Party's long-term decline.

In his letter, Mr Kinnoch exhorted Labour, "as an open democratic party", to "act upon the views of a broad membership that is representative of Labour supporters' views." In the hope of deterring the small unrepresentative hard-left caucuses which dominate Labour constituency politics from sacking any MP who displeases them, he has proposed (and yesterday Labour's National Executive Committee agreed) that responsibility for sitting in judgment on MPs' parliamentary performances should be transferred to ballots of all the paid-up members within a constituency party. Mr Kinnoch's letter ends with a challenge to the left to say whether they think "the great majority of Party members cannot be trusted to make such a judgment."

Yet standing by the side of Mr Scargill, who has persistently denied the miners' ballot so many of them want, Mr Kinnoch had a very different song to sing. For the greatest victory for the National Union of Mineworkers in their history, he proclaimed that Mrs Thatcher must not be allowed to let the coal industry and its communities "rot". "We can't," he said, "permit Thatcher to have a further victory in her war against the British people."

Thus, by the sleight of words that is Mr Kinnoch's principal stock-in-trade, Mrs Thatcher's resistance to Mr Scargill's declared attempt to destroy the Government as well as its policy for an economically viable coal industry becomes her "war against the British people". Mrs Thatcher must be defeated despite the fact that the Scargill campaign of intimidation which is the principal weapon in her arsenal. The Government does not reflect the wishes of the mining community as a whole, and has been made possible only by the refusal of the miners' leader to "act upon the views of a broad membership" which he could have ascertained through the ballot he has denied them.

Furthermore, when Mrs Thatcher, in speaking to her backbenchers, likened the spirit of the anti-Scargill resistance to that which made possible the Falklands defeat of the Galtieri regime, Mr Kinnoch was outraged. But, of course, it was not the miners that Mrs Thatcher was comparing to the Galtieri junta but the bosses who have exploited them and have resisted accountability to their rank-and-file in precisely the manner of a junta, and with the same motivation as that of the constituency machine-politicians whom Mr Kinnoch now exhorts to throw open their reselection processes to a membership ballot.

The explanation for the inconsistency is that a point has been reached in the Labour Party at which Mr Kinnoch has to make a stand, or reconcile himself to a no-hope election in three or four years' time. But what is happening in the NUM is something of which it is easier to

John P. Harris

Overtaxed and over there

I am worried about Joe. We meet every now and then, to swap my old *Timeses* for his old *Economist*. Six months ago he was a happy little man, sitting at the edge of his vineyard somewhere near Bezier, in the sun or in the shade, according to the time of day. Now he has lost weight, twitches, and stumps around his village muttering.

Last November he claimed to be spiritually 50, although celebrating his 60th birthday. Quite a good celebration, because after a spell in the 1950s and 1960s of explaining the joys of Racine to the offspring of the toiling British masses, he was receiving a pension. Not much - about £2,000 a year; but he and Mrs Joe had been living in the Midi for £4,000 a year, which came from investments in various countries and from odd jobs like translating and grape-picking. Living, he claimed, like a king and queen.

"Well, work it out," he used to say, "on wine and tobacco we're saving over £1,750 a year compared with England, and then there's the hardly any income tax - in fact the tax man, who lives just down the road, usually sends me a small cheque out of my tax credits..."

Next time I called he was white with rage. "Look at this!" He waved Form P91 at me. "There's a tax man in Wales who wants me to put my complete occupational biography most of it. And look at this other form - I've got to declare all my income from anywhere in the world for 1982-83..."

"What's so hard about that?" "For heaven's sake! The French form is bad enough, it took me two whole days last time. I kept a copy, but that's not much help because the French tax year starts on January 1. I've two different tax years and two different ways of calculating income and expenses..."

"But why is the Inland Revenue asking about your French income? They can't tax that just because you get a British pension?" "No. But if they gave me a married man's allowance on this pension there wouldn't be any tax, and so what they want is to work out what my tax would be if my total world income were British; then they multiply that by my pension income - got it?"

"Go on, go on!"

"Well, the result is that they give me a tiny personal allowance and then tax the rest of the pension at the standard rate, which turns out to be about four times what the French would have wanted. I think they'll get about £400 a year, the vamps."

"But Joe, Joe! Your situation hasn't changed. You're still permanently, ordinarily and obstinately resident, domiciled and settled out of the UK - you don't have to pay."

"Well, I don't. But of course, I'll write to darkest Wales and tell them where to get off. Have a Buck's Fizz!"

"A month later: 'Wales says that teachers' pensions aren't like other pensions; that's why they've started in on me. I did the flaming forms last week. Proper dog's breakfast it was, brought on a touch of the old diarrhoea, so I'm back on Tagamet.'"

"But when I called in February all was smiles. 'My naturalization has come through! The mayor threw a party for us last night.'"

"I didn't know you'd applied."

"Oh yes - two years ago. They take their time - blood tests, Interpol, the *assistante sociale* looks in to see if you wash... We want to be able to vote, you see. And the best of it is, it's one in the eye for darkest Wales! They can't tax me now - I'm French!"

"This manic phase did not last, and now Joe is in such a dilemma he has lost five kilos and is smoking two packets a day."

"Darkest Wales doesn't give a hoot for dual nationality. The man still wants his £400 a year. It'll cost me about £300 a year to stay in the British club, because the French would only have taken £100. What should I do? I mean, I feel English, down in the solar plexus, and I suppose I always will. But I want to live here for the rest of my life."

"I wrote to the British Ambassador to ask him if I get any concrete advantages out of staying technically British. The person on his staff who replied didn't get the point. He said he couldn't advise on tax matters, and enclosed a list of accountants. And he added that the fee for vetting British nationality is £68.50 a head. Well, perhaps it's a bargain. I don't know. There's that Gilbert and Sullivan thing: 'In spite of all temptations to belong to other nations he remains an Englishman.' Oh dear, oh dear. What would you do?"



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234.

IF THE RATE CAP FITS . . .

The chapter in the annual statement of the Government's expenditure plans devoted to the local authorities has come to read like a rather repetitive piece of fiction. Within months of publication, its columns for council current spending projections are exposed as make-believe. In the real world the Secretary of State for the Environment presents budgetary returns from councils showing persistent overshooting. A ratchet pulls. Since 1982 the cumulative gap between the original public expenditure plan for local spending and the amount allowed in the revisions has grown into a gulf.

This year is no different. In 1983 Mr. Jenkin (inheritor of cards dealt by Mr. King and Mr. Heseltine) upped the bid by £500 million; now he has secured £800 million. This, he told the Cabinet, was realism, recognition in the financial plans for 1985-86 of the scale of council overshooting this year. (Recapitulate, briefly, the February spending statement: it believed there was "scope for significant reduction" in council outlays £1.5 billion less than those now projected for 1985-86.) All in all, the record since 1979-80 shows the Government to have been defeated. Current council outlays are now some 12 per cent - in volume terms - greater than when it took office. The total of council outlays (including capital spending which has been cut in real terms by 75 per cent over the decade since Mr. Heath left office) is exactly the same as in 1979.

But now, Mr. Jenkin says, the

retreat is over; the forces of local expenditure control have regrouped and re-armed. And, in the light of this week's statement by the minister, that is indeed how it seems. He is armed with a fearsome array of fiscal weapons. Councils which step over his line in the dust will suffer huge losses of grant - enough rapidly to wipe out their complete entitlement. The most controversial weapon of all has been undraped. Overspending by 18 hand-picked councils will be illegal.

The odds are surely that Mr. Jenkin's new weapons will work - success being defined as more or less freezing the current volume of council spending and (at last) making the figures in next spring's spending statement tally with the real world. The minister has, after all, been kind to be cruel. For large numbers of councils that £800m adjustment will pay for insulation against spending cuts. Several counties have a bonus: their budgets of 1984-85, while significantly over-spending, will be carried forward in volume terms to next year. In a rational world, which local authority can now contemplate over-spending when the penalties are pitched so high?

But is any assumption of reasonableness correct? A new spirit is abroad in the municipal empire. The example of Liverpool's intransigence is fresh. No concessions were made, Mr. Jenkin says, but ministers pandered for long months to councillors talking insurrection, in the hope that they would force councilors to face the consequences. United in a refusal to

make a legal rate the hard-line London councils could present a formidable political challenge; much will hinge, for both the Labour Party and the Government, on Mr. Jenkin's bid to make Labour responsible and Labour councillors more aware of their responsibilities. There are, besides, practical difficulties in the operation of the Rates Act. Ordaining a spending level for Camden or Hackney is one thing; translating it into an acceptable rate levy is another (many might say no Camden rate levy is acceptable that does not embody a reduction in tax). Mr. Jenkin has surely worked out all the permutations of cash balances, receipts from asset sales and the like.

This week's package is not, ultimately, about rates, whatever ministers might say. It is about controlling spending. Hence the Government's bland acceptance of a further cut in the proportion of local spending to be borne by central grants; the effect is to increase further the strains within an unreformed rates system. With his new weapon Mr. Jenkin should gain his victory, but on his way there the country will get some idea of the cost. One of the rate-capped councils is Portsmouth, a Conservative district. Portsmouth, the Government says, is spending too much on its libraries and museums. Whatever its effectiveness this week's package cannot be wholly welcome when it allows a civil servant sitting in a London office with a set of charts to second-guess the cultural preferences of the burghers of this or any other municipality.

TESTING TIME ON HONGKONG

Sir Geoffrey Howe has set off for China amid signs that the negotiations on the future of Hongkong have reached a difficult stage. When the Foreign Secretary last visited the Far East three months ago, it looked as though an agreement on Hongkong was imminent. China had spelt out its plans for preserving Hongkong as an autonomous, self-governing region for at least fifty years after 1997 - the year the British-held lease on most of the territory expires. And the British Government had come round to the view that given China's assurances, the British administration of Hongkong could be brought to an end thirteen years hence in a manner acceptable to Parliament and at least tolerable to the people of Hongkong. All that remained, it seemed, was to draw up an agreement incorporating clear and specific provisions for maintaining Hongkong's present economic, political and legal system after 1997.

But since then the negotiations have run into trouble. The Chinese leader Mr. Deng Xiaoping apparently prefers a general statement of principle, rather than an agreement in detail. No doubt he feels, along with most other people in China, that Hongkong is essentially China's internal affair, and not something to be agreed on with the British. Mr. Deng has also complicated matters by propos-

ing a Sino-British commission based in Hongkong to oversee the transitional period between now and 1997 - a commission that could quickly undermine the effectiveness of the British administration there. Mr. Deng seems to believe that having extracted significant concessions from the British side, he can now go farther and press for a settlement entirely on China's terms. Perhaps he is under the impression that Britain's interest in Hongkong is too slight for Mrs. Thatcher and her government to resist. He will certainly have been encouraged to think this by the House of Commons debate on Hongkong in May, when MPs on both sides of the house seemed only too anxious to placate China in whatever way they could.

It is up to the Foreign Secretary to dispel any such impression as firmly as he can. As *The Times* has repeatedly argued, an agreement on Hongkong must include full and precise provisions for the future if it is to be of any use. Such an agreement would help keep Peking to its word, for the simple reason that the Chinese Communist Party has been much better about sticking to its international commitments than it has about keeping the promises it has made to its own people. It would also provide the minimum necessary reassurance to the population of Hongkong, and so be doing a

service not only to Hongkong but also to China.

That said, there is some reason to think that the differences now dividing the British and Chinese negotiating teams can be overcome. There are many ways of drawing up an agreement, and it should be possible to fit Britain's requirements into the framework favoured by China. A document to which detailed provisions are appended in the form of annexes could, for example, just about serve the British government's purpose. Similarly, Mr. Deng's idea of a liaison commission need not be rejected out of hand. There will have to be some sort of liaison during the next thirteen years; and provided it takes place in say, Peking or Canton it will help smooth the way to Britain's withdrawal from Hongkong and thus be to the territory's advantage.

It is probably wrong to assume that Mr. Deng is adamant and will remain so. He is in a strong position; but he needs to settle the Hongkong issue amicably, both as an earnest of his intentions towards Taiwan, and as proof that China's open-door policy towards the West works and is seen to work. As such he would be unwise to insist on getting his own way, and can surely be persuaded that it is in China's broader interest to come to terms. A breakdown in the talks would serve the interests of nobody.

POLAND ON PAROLE

The amnesty for political prisoners in Poland is general Jaruzelski's latest attempt to reconcile the irreconcilable. On the one hand there are the demands of hard-line ideologues security bosses and party placemen, not to mention his own military desire for the discipline of the barracks. On the other, there are the aspirations of the Polish people, clearly articulated by the Church and by the manifold voices of secular opposition.

On the one hand he faces pressure from Moscow; on the other, Western sanctions. When the West imposed those sanctions in 1982, we made three main demands: the lifting of martial law, the release of political prisoners, and the resumption of a dialogue between the communist regime and independent representatives of the Polish nation. In 1983, martial law was lifted, but replaced by a net of criminal law - and police lawlessness - which is almost as repressive. Now almost all the political prisoners are to be released, including the KOR. Remembering the demonization of KOR in the media of the Soviet block, this is a political gesture of some daring. But the Jaruzelski government is probably trying to have it both ways: when the dramatic amnesty has persuaded the west to lift sanctions, quiet re-arrests will follow, to satisfy the East.

We should recall that there was an amnesty last year, yet Poland's jails were soon refilled with political prisoners. Indeed,

such credits not been barred. It might be worth lifting the formal ban on new government credits, if only to demonstrate that Poland would not be getting those credits anyway, for purely economic reasons. The hard facts are that Poland is too poor to be creditworthy, but not poor enough to beat the worldwide competition for humanitarian aid. With or without formal sanctions, the Jaruzelski government cannot expect large scale economic aid from the west in the foreseeable future.

In this economic desert there are two possible oases. One is the Catholic Church's planned fund for private agriculture, which, if the Jaruzelski government would demonstrate its goodwill in a trial scheme, could be a candidate for western credits. The other, larger but more remote, is the International Monetary Fund. There is a case for bringing Poland back into the IMF (it was a founder-member, but left in a Stalinist sulk). Both Western creditors and the Polish people might benefit from IMF scrutiny of Poland's stalled economic reforms. But the United States will probably not remove its veto on Poland's application to join the IMF until after the presidential election. The delay may be providential. In this period, we shall see whether the Jaruzelski government can now pursue a genuine dialogue, and whether it can keep its hands off the people who for so long have been unjustly imprisoned, and are now so provisionally released.

Diversion of food to Ethiopian army

From Mrs Mary Dines

Sir, At a time when hundreds of thousands of Ethiopians face starvation it may seem churlish to question the way in which the situation is being presented by the media and international agencies. I only do so because, unless the root causes of the famine are addressed, there is no way in which the situation can be improved.

If the media and the military regime are to be believed, the current food shortages are due solely to natural causes. It is true that the inadequate rainfall and the overuse of land in some areas are contributory factors. Ethiopia, however, is a vast country with a great agricultural potential, and good housekeeping could ensure the establishment of buffer stocks to meet emergencies.

Unfortunately, the military regime's first priority is its war in Eritrea, where it maintains an army of over 100,000 men, and the suppression of nationalists seeking to ensure the establishment of self-determination within Ethiopia.

When I visited Eritrea earlier this year I met many Ethiopian soldiers who, prior to their capture by the EPLF (Eritrean People's Liberation Front) at Mersa Teklai in March had spent the past five years in the desert on the Alghera front in Sahel. They told me they had survived on food supplied for relief purposes by the EEC and other international organisations.

They also told me that their main bulk food, army biscuits, came from a factory at Decemare which was supplied with EEC and other wheat from abroad. They considered this situation reasonable, as there was no food in Eritrea which could be commandeered by the army.

I myself saw hundreds of boxes of EEC milk powder which were in the Ethiopian army stores at Mersa Teklai and Unicef milk in the Tessenai garrison which was also captured by the EPLF.

The diversion of food supplies from both inside and outside Ethiopia to the war front has impoverished the Ethiopian people. Food shortages have also been compounded by the press-ganging of over 400,000 small farmers from the fertile areas of the south and elsewhere, leaving much land uncultivated.

As long as the Ethiopian authorities devote all their human and natural resources to the war against the Eritreans, Western agencies can do little to solve the problem of feeding the Ethiopian people.

The provision of relief and development aid, therefore, has to be linked to an initiative aimed at bringing about a political solution to the Eritrean question. To pretend otherwise is to do a disservice to the very people we want to help.

Yours faithfully,
MARY DINES,
48 Brownlow Road, N11,
July 19.

Forty years on

From Mr David Clark, MP for South Shields (Labour)

Sir, The article on the drowned village of Mardale (July 23) was much appreciated.

Your correspondent rightly pays fulsome testimony to the dry-stone wallers whose still outstanding work allows us to discern the village boundaries. Their enduring quality is quite remarkable.

However, what amazed me, as a former forerunner, was the stumps of the felled trees. Not only were they clearly in evidence but even after more than 40 years under water the bark was so well preserved that the species could be readily identified.

Can we deduce that such preservation is due to the purity of Lakeland water or its pickling qualities?

Yours faithfully,
DAVID CLARK,
House of Commons,
July 23.

Line upon line

From Mrs Isobel Shepherd

Sir, I recently received a card from the library addressed to: MRS ISOBEL SHEPHERD, FLAT 4, 9 ORCHARD (THE) ORCHARD HOUSE, SE3.

I telephoned the library to complain about this travesty of my address, and was told that this is the only way the computer can express it.

With the growing use of computers does this mean, I wonder, that this clumsy and ugly version will completely replace the beauty and brevity of my real address?

Yours sincerely,
ISOBEL SHEPHERD,
9a The Orchard, SE3,
July 10.

How Molotov survived

From Sir Archibald P. Hope

Sir, Mr. Walden's account of Molotov (feature, July 17) has reminded me of a small piece of wartime history which, as far as I know, has never been published. It relates to the visit made to this country by Molotov in May, 1942 - the first meeting between a senior member of the Russian leadership and Churchill. It was, of course, conducted in great secrecy but there can be no doubt about its importance. (See Churchill's *History of the Second World War*, vol IV, ch XIX).

At the time I was senior controller in charge of the operations room for the Turbomec sector of RAF Fighter Command. This was situated on the aerodrome but in a separate private house just off the Crystalline road from the centre of Edinburgh.

In April, 1942, I suddenly found my staff increased by a somewhat mysterious Army lieutenant, who explained that he had been sent to await the arrival of an aircraft

Homeless and hopeless in London

From Dr Richard Stone and others

Sir, As professionals working in the Bayswater area of west London we are growing alarmed at the increasing numbers of people obliged to live for everlong periods in bed and breakfast hotels.

Families with an eventual right to rehoming have doubled in two years to well over 500, which must represent some 2,000 people placed there by hard-pressed councils from all over London. There are also hundreds of single people who have no real prospect of a proper home in the foreseeable future and no statutory rights worthy of the name.

Set up for short-stay tourists, few hotels offer remotely adequate facilities for people dumped there for months and, increasingly, for several years. Overcrowding is rife and fire precautions minimal. Food storage and cooking facilities are woefully lacking, so diet has to be expensive "junk" food. None have proper laundry facilities. There is little communal space, especially for children. These are appalling disadvantages.

Workers are particularly concerned at the amount of illness. Consultation and hospital admission rates are high. Children have been found to be suffering from malnutrition, unheard of in Bayswater for half a century. Living under such stress must be part of the reason why, of the children on the child abuse "at risk" register, one in

ten lives in this sort of accommodation.

Often miles from their originating borough, we find children of school age not in school.

Many try to get out, but find it hard to fight back. They have enormous problems obtaining their full entitlement to state benefits or access to state services. They rarely have the vote.

They are frightened to complain because they have no security in their hotel and little trust in some of the statutory agencies responsible for their welfare.

Locally we do what we can. By forming a working group we can coordinate our activities. We can publicise the plight of these people. We desperately need more resources in all the relevant services. Above all, we need recognition by the country of the growing crisis of homelessness and we must have action by the Government to provide more decent homes.

Yours,
RICHARD STONE,
CATHY GOUGH,
SHEILA
MAKEDR,
RACHEL FRY,
AND CROSS,
RICHARD QUASHE,
NARESH KUMAR,
ANNE MURRAY,
GEORGE
MACKINTOSH,
GARTH H. EVANS,
ANNE GOSKURTH,
JONATHAN STEARN,
SUE JENKINS,
Co-ordinating Group for the Homeless in Bayswater,
81 Westbourne Grove, W2,
July 23.

Intermittent custody

From Lady Ralphs

Sir, The Magistrates' Association strongly commends the initiative of the Home Secretary in circulating a Green Paper on intermittent custody. He is tackling, with foresight and courage, the problem of a positive alternative to full custody, to fill a gap in the system for those who constitute a threat to the wellbeing of the community, even though they fall short of the most serious and violent offenders.

Magistrates in some 9,000 courts a week adjudicate on offences and offenders representing a wide spectrum of danger to the public which, not being permitted to take the law into their own hands, rightly looks to the court for protection and control.

A court is humane in as far as it recognizes the suffering of the victim as well as the proper claims of the offender in mitigation. Justices recognize that non-custodial penalties such as fines and community service are preferable in every appropriate case to custody. Where

this is inevitable because of the seriousness of the offence or persistence in unlawful conduct, a form of custody may be inevitable.

Intermittent custody, by enabling the offender to continue his education or employment, to fulfil his responsibilities to his family and to maintain contact with the community, may give the offender an improved insight into balancing his rights and responsibilities. This could be a more effective deterrent than having personal responsibilities lifted from him during a term of imprisonment.

The association is not looking primarily for more severe but for more effective ways of dealing with the offender. It sees intermittent custody, involving as it does some deprivation of liberty and leisure, as an alternative to full custody and would resist its use in place of a non-custodial sentence.

Yours faithfully,
ENID RALPHS,
Chairman of Council,
The Magistrates' Association,
28 Fitzroy Square, W1.

This problem, surely, has made the courts cautious in the use, whether ex parte or by action, of what is an inquisitorial jurisdiction backed by severe sanctions.

It is, of course, right that the deliberate piecemeal process of development by judicial decision and statutory adjustment of the present very unsatisfactory nineteenth-century jurisprudence should be hurried forward, but not at cost to those who know nothing or should have the right to remain silent.

Yours faithfully,
J. F. KELEMEN,
Helmsey,
South Hill Avenue,
Harrow,
Middlesex.

Not only does article 52 advocate the participation by all member states in the EMS but also the wider use of the ECU as a currency. The ECU is being introduced here this summer in the form of travellers' cheques. If the Government, following elections, adopts the policies of the most defeated party we might well dispense with the expense and inconvenience of having elections.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLOTTE HORSFIELD,
24 Liverpool Road,
Kingston Hill,
Surrey,
July 14.

Off the handle

From Professor Harold G. Marcus

Sir, I have frequently noticed that many front doors in Britain are not equipped with handles, especially in London, where one often sees individuals grasping the inside of letter slots or using keys or door-knockers to pull doors shut.

I know that British people equip the doors inside their homes with handles or knobs, so that ignorance of these conveniences does not explain their extraordinary absence on so many entry portals.

Perhaps some of your learned readers might be able to explain this curious lapse.

Yours faithfully,
HAROLD G. MARCUS,
415 Orchard Street,
East Lansing,
Michigan 48823, USA,
July 15.

York. Subsequently we learned that all on board had been killed. This story was not told during the war for obvious reasons nor has it been publicised since.

It is interesting to speculate on how history might have been altered if Molotov that morning at Teeling had selected the aircraft which subsequently crashed. That there would have been repercussions from Moscow is obvious but Sir Winston Churchill, in the chapter of his history devoted to Molotov's visit, describes the quite extraordinary precautions taken for Molotov's personal safety at Chequers.

Can it be believed that if Molotov had been killed Stalin would not have assumed that we had an interest in killing his closest adviser in his relations with us and the USA?

Yours, etc.
ARCHIBALD P. HOPE,
The Manor House,
Somerset Keynes,
Gloucestershire,
July 20.

Molotov replied that he would like to fly. He was told that there were two aircraft; he selected one. The second was filled by the remainder of his staff, inter alia, an RAF air commodore.

About an hour after we got a message that one of the two aircraft had crashed in flames in the Vale of

Cost of cuts in education

From Mr R. W. Stiles

Sir, When my primary pupils went home for their summer holidays last Friday I was not sorry that the school year was over. Perhaps I am becoming too eager for early retirement from my headship, or it could be that the stress of trying to do more with less is now beginning to tell.

The microcomputer which the Department of Industry encouraged me to acquire arrived recently. It has to be fed. It will mean less money to spend on old-fashioned books. The ones we have already are becoming increasingly tatty, since my spending money per pupil has risen barely 16 per cent since 1980.

Not surprisingly, the area manager of a publishing house commented to me recently that from his point of view my territory was hardly worth entering. In avoiding privatization, one out of every four hours' cleaning time has been taken away from me.

For the first time in its 140 years my school was affected by a teachers' withdrawal of labour and good will, the reason for this being, I understand, that there is not enough money in the kitty to keep teachers' pay at the same level in real terms and buy books.

Mine is a small voice, but I would like to be heard making a plea that if the cost of state education is to be trimmed back yearly by local education authorities, who claim that they have to comply with central government's requirements, there ought to be a realistic appraisal of what we can and cannot afford.

It may be better to excise than dilute, but it is useless to pretend we can go on as we are.

Yours faithfully,
R. W. STILES,
34 Friars Quay,
Norwich, Norfolk,
July 23.

Summer of discontent

From Miss Rosalind Howard Smith

Sir, I have always considered academic snobbery to be the worst form of elitism, so when a professor publicly declares (July 21) that the conceptual range of miners "does not extend much beyond 'scab' and 'universally brands them as 'C' and 'D' stream pupils', then I fear that a Brave New World of intellectual hierarchy is imminent.

Professor Musgrove calls the miners "cannon fodder in politico-industrial wars". That they may be, but he errs in accusing the dangerous and amoral Mr Scargill of taking advantage of simple and unlettered men.

Effective political structures are composed of those who lead and those who are led. History demonstrates that one's educational standard is no indication of which side one will join, nor, as common sense will confirm, is it any indication of one's wisdom.

The professor's tone of elaborate condescension suggests that he and his erudite fellows are not "at the mercy of unscrupulous manipulators". If he really believes that this privileged existence is at all possible in a modern state then either he is displaying astonishing naivete or I am being unduly cynical.

Yours faithfully,
ROSALIND HOWARD SMITH,
41 Manor Way,
Blackheath, SE3,
July 21.

From Mr Colin Chapman

Sir, In reply to Professor Frank Musgrove's letter (July 21), I object to many of the points he raises.

Professor Musgrove assumes that the entire workforce of the NCB (NUM members) are so-called "C and D-stream pupils" from "sec mods".

I am a technical educationist with the NCB, formerly graded by the unfair educational system as probable "D-stream fodder", but I have studied at technical colleges and at present am following the Institution of Mining Electrical and Mining Mechanical Engineers' honours course at the Polytechnic of Wales.

Is not Professor Musgrove tarring us all with the same brush?

I am in favour of industrial action, but I feel a ballot was a "must".

Incidentally, I did not join the NCB by choice: it was a last resort, although I now do not regret it. Otherwise I would be one of the three million plus on the dole today, caused by an unthinking society.

Yours faithfully,
COLIN CHAPMAN,
111 Llanfair Road,
Neath,
West Glamorgan.

MPs' allowances

From Mr Andrew Blanche

Sir, I am dismayed by the new scale of mileage allowances, detailed on page 2 of last Saturday's *Times*, which MPs have voted themselves.

This system encourages rather than penalises the use of large capacity cars and I would suggest that this is both a bad example and a retrograde step at a time when fuel conservation is supposed to be practised by the rest of the population.

Yours,
A. BLANCHE,
41 West Park,
Mottisfont, SE9,
July 21.

If the cap fits

From Mr Douglas Jack

Sir, Your leading article of July 20 refers to the "keeping open" of uneconomic pits as "therapy" for miners.

Is the keeping open of un-economic newspapers likewise "therapy" for journalists?

Yours faithfully,
DOUGLAS JACK,
12 Girdwood Road, SW18,
July 21.

THE ARTS

Theatre

A misplaced piece of old-fashioned fun

The Happiest Days of Your Life

Barbican

It is all too easy for a reviewer to laugh his head off at some fine old farce at the National or the RSC and then declare that subsidised companies have no business in putting on this sort of thing.

With one crippling disadvantage (of which more later) John Dighton's 1948 laugh-riot stands up pretty well in Clifford Williams's revival. The play was written when the old farcical taboos still had some life in them; and, if Mr. Dighton's powers of comic invention were immeasurably superior to his dialogue, you could say the same of his master, Ben Travers.

My objection is that London now has a company, the Theatre of Comedy, specializing in this area of the repertoire, and capable (as in the Shaftesbury production of *See How They Run*) of competing on equal terms with any subsidised show. Few enough new productions get into the RSC's main London house for it to ignore the cause of world drama and new writers for the sake of a harmless bit of yesterday's fun for which there is a ready platform elsewhere.

Should any reader have missed the film version or the innumerable amateur revivals, *The Happiest Day of Your Life* concerns the bullying of a girl's school on a boys' school in the shaky first days of postwar Britain. This happy notion gave Mr. Dighton the chance to make hay at the expense of bureaucracy, closed institutions and sexual embarrassment.

Three trusty farcical themes rolled into one expert display of controlled anarchy.

To get this writer's farcical measure you need only look at his handling of props. As on



Peggy Mount, dispelling even the shade of Margaret Rutherford

Travers's stage, inanimate objects take on a life of their own, and generally get transformed into sticks of dynamite. A confiscated stick of Ilfracombe rock passes from the hand of one master to another, and then falls under the all-seeing eye of the invading headmistress - a sure sign that the place is going to the dogs as it has been sucked at both ends.

A pair of knickers, produced by the needlework class, arouses the wrath of a boy's parent, before surreptitiously winding up in the handbag of his queenly wife (a superb monosyllabic performance by Sheila Ballantine). The misogynistic senior master, groaning under the attention of four aunts, uses their photographs to reveal an admirer as his dead wives. As

drive off the next invasion. I do not see much point in this, but you have to give it the benefit of the doubt in view of Tuesday night's events.

Briefly, Paul Greenwood, as the junior master, suffered the actor's nightmare with a memory loss on the grand scale. He fought back gallantly and wittily through the first act, but in Act II even the text turned against him. "Are you on the staff here?" inquired a lordly parent. "I wish I wasn't." "Couldn't they get anyone else?" a question that had Mr. Greenwood doubled up with his head in his hands, before having to rise and introduce the gowned headmaster as an actor rehearsing the school play who "has to start very early learning his lines".

From what there was of it, Mr. Greenwood's was a good performance, and he had the full sympathy of the house. But, once full confidence in a farcical machine is undermined, it is apt to splinter into a wreck of spinning cogwheels. There is some expert comic playing in the company; but for once it makes sense to itemize it player by player rather than by moments of shared timing.

The isolated pleasures of Tuesday night include Maria Aitken outdoing Joyce Grenfell as a humping, country-quiet Amazon, even going into a gym-slip to practice judo throws on the man of her choice. As he is played by Richard O'Callaghan, spitting rat-like defiance through a permanently clenched pipe, there is at least one notable comic relationship to recall. John Carter as the headmaster dwindles deliciously from high status urbane into panic-stricken frenzy as he is good to see Griffith Jones, as the moustached groundsman, at last released from his seraphic beard.

Irving Wardle

Claude Old Red Lion

This elaborate joke, which must have seemed very funny in rehearsal, is the brainchild of Paul and George, a new company led by the writer-director duo Paul Waite and George Yiasoumi. It requires an African beach hut, an endless supply of cocktails and epigrams, and a cast of five, one of whom gets an entrance laugh by arriving with dark glasses and a white stick. The stereotypes of plot and dialogue are more or less divided

between 1940s Hollywood psychodrama and Noel Coward.

Claude, their host, is a madly glamorous playwright who, though spoken to and praised for his conversation, never appears. Since, as we presently discover, he died at the age of seven, that is possibly not surprising but it still leaves the question of why the blind man has been able to see for 15 years, why a chiropodist is masquerading as a psychiatrist ("What about those three people you committed to Vienna?", someone ominously asks), why the voluptuous Stevie (Shelley Pielon) keeps poisoning her lover's cocktail, and why the lighting

man is wearing full evening dress and slippers. All these questions, except the last, are answered in a ludicrous denouement which is the funniest thing in the evening.

The in-jokes themselves vary in quality. Some sharply satirize the absurdities of glamour: this set dabbles into each other's mouths and rise from bed with the girls wearing the tops of their boys' silk pyjamas. But it is so easy that it needs to be done better: talk of marvellous parties (Coward wins that one), ordering dinner at the Ivy and stylishly leaving the lot (Waugh did that better), or simple Coward refer-

ences like asking who the yacht in the bay belongs to and naming Claude's last play *Love's Whirlpool*.

The cast underplays coolly, though without quite dismissing the impression of a poorish Coward audition for provincial rep. As the group's wallflower turned medium, Lisa Harner carries off a silly scene with full-throated bravura, and Jo Caulfield (suddenly donning heavy specs) supplies the psychological point-out with just the right ponderous anxiety.

Anthony Masters

Party Game

Covent Garden

The Royal Ballet on Tuesday gave the first showing of a new production by Patrick Caulfield: his first theatrical design, and absolutely stunning. The stage is completely boxed in by walls painted to resemble an outside version of Covent Garden's red striped wallpaper, except that the painted rays from giant painted lampshades turn the lighter red stripes black and the darker ones white, with a yellow pool where the imaginary beam lands. The whole thing is as brilliantly colourful, stylish and witty.

Uniquely among the painters who have turned lately to the theatre, Caulfield is equally successful with the costumes worn by the dancers who inhabit this space. The two men look chic and confident, the three women ravishingly pretty. The one possible complaint might be that the smart, classical style has little in common with Stravinsky's Concerto in D for strings, which is played while the designs are exhibited (played rather well, too, under Ashley Lawrence's direction, bringing out to the full its romantic qualities of gloomy humour). However, the lack of cohesion is true also of the dances arranged by Michael Corder.

These suggest a party. At first, Stephen Sheriff and Guy Niblett are both trying to attract Bryony Brind's attention. When she proves unresponsive, they turn to Deirdre Eyden, which offends a Brind further, then decide they prefer each other, which unites the women under Brind's leadership. But Corder has nothing to tell us about these people. Having estab-

Dance

lished a situation, his only resource is to sidestep any development by wheeling on an enormous pouffe for some desultory further romps, and finally to echo Caulfield's joke about the theatre by having Eyden produce and study a Covent Garden programme.

Perhaps the ballet is best understood as a gay parody of Robbins's *The Cage*, to the same score, with the male victims uniting and overcoming the insect-queen who would have killed them, masochistic, during copulation. Corder seems to suggest this by quoting Robbins in the voracious stride with which Brind rallies her troops.

There are some amusing touches, notably when the pouffe is stood on its edge like a wheel and two women are rolled over it. But most of the movement is fidgety and contrived, banging away at the beat of the music and missing its point. However, cast and setting look marvellous, and the whole thing lasts only 12 minutes 18 seconds - followed, of course, by a 25-minute intermission.

The programme notes, incidentally, remind us that the Royal Ballet once had a much better ballet to this music, by Hans van Manen. Perhaps *Party Game* is provoking someone into reviving *Till*. That would be another merit to set beside that of providing a wonderful illustration for future histories of ballet design.

This programme also includes MacMillan's spine-chilling *My Brother, My Sister* (in which relationships really do develop) and *Raymonda Act II*, joyfully led on Tuesday by Antonette Sibley and David Wall. I hope to write more about those works later.

John Percival

Onegin

Dominion

Marcia Hayde, the original heroine of John Cranko's ballet, danced the opening performance of *Onegin* in Festival Ballet's season at the Dominion. Tuesday brought the opportunity of seeing one of the company's own casts as Tatiana, the young Italian Renata Calderini. She starts with several advantages: her pale skin and dark hair and eyes suit the character of Pushkin's heroine, and in the early scenes she has the shy, withdrawn air he ascribes to her, a young girl with her head full of romances.

She acts not only with her expressive face and eyes but also with her dancing, her lovely line and *port de bras* conveying her shifting emotions. Her transformation into the grande dame of Moscow society is also well accomplished, and she manages to bring out the implication in Cranko's choreography for her duet with Benice Greenin that her feelings for her husband are based on duty and affection rather than passion.

Michael Pink makes the small role of Gremzin into a sympathetic and totally believable character, without any over-emphasis. Mark Silver is as dashing and romantic as a Lensky as one might wish in the absence of the unforgettable original, Egon Madson. Alexander Sombert danced the title role with considerable elegance, but without any noticeable sense of character. The corps de ballet seem to be settling happily into the most positive addition to the company's repertoire for some time.

Judith Cruickshank

Promenade Concert

BBCPO/Leppard

Albert Hall/Radio 3

Programming Delius, Maw and Brahms at their most lush and intuitive, leaves the head feeling rather as if it has been subjected overlong to the echoes and lights of a subterranean swimming pool, sunk somewhere between heaven and hell. Echoes indeed bounce off all three, and not necessarily to each other's advantage. For Nicholas Maw's sake alone, one could have wished for some keener off-setting.

The work at stake was Maw's *Scenes and Arias*, first heard in the Proms in 1962 and revised in 1966. It was, in Maw's words, the potential of a "hypothetical dramatic - or more precisely operatic - situation" behind a pair of anonymous early fifteenth-century love lyrics that

fired his imagination to produce a heady suite for three female voices and large orchestra, to which he later added an orchestral interlude, separating love-letter and reply.

The intermezzo picks up and intensifies the alarming repeated woodwind notes which earlier bore their way through the ecstasy of voice and orchestra, setting them now against the violins' long aria and lashing them to readiness for the *Respaccio's* rage and rejoicing. The remaining four stanzas gain increasing structural and expressive strength, the voices' long melismas tugging in tied note and triplet across the passacaglia which urges on their expiration.

The work as it now stands is potent, but, like much of Szymanowski, with the potency of voyeurism: Maw's setting is

so far removed in sensibility from the terse, word-echoing medieval *Franglais* that its drama is drawn down into meditation on rather than expression of its experience. The voices of Alison Hargan, Eileen Hannan and Linda Flinzie were pungently matched.

Arnold Bax, no less, and self-confessedly, a "brazen Romanic", enjoyed the encouragement of the Proms too; and, having already shown warm affection to Delius in his *Paradise Garden*, Raymond Leppard and the BBC Philharmonic gobbled up Bax's 1934 Fifth Symphony with voracious enthusiasm. Yet still the ear was engaged more by resemblances than by revelation, more by sequence than by consequence, and more by notational than expressive expansion.

Hilary Finch

Opera

Covent Garden beware

The King Goes Forth to France

Savonlinna

Savonlinna must be the most democratic of opera festivals (the competition, after all, is not so very hot). Cast away together on a castellated island rising from the lakes of eastern Finland, diplomats and international businessmen share the courtyard of the fortress of Olavinlinna with nursing mothers and young children, making a crowd of over 2,000 gathered for July nights under the barely setting sun. This is opera in the raw. It is touching comedy (*The Magic Flute*); it is peasant (*Don Carlos*); and it is melodrama (*The Flying Dutchman*): all of these are Savonlinna specialities.

The subtler and rarer flavours come from the festival's equal concern with new Finnish opera. This is of long standing. In 1912 the festival was founded by the Finnish soprano Aino Ackté exclusively as a platform for native opera, and more recently the repertoire has included the first two operas of Aulis Sallinen and the single one by Joonas Kokkonen - three works which have caused many to speak of some operatic renaissance in Finland.

This year, with the first performance of Sallinen's third opera, *The King Goes Forth to France*, the superlatives have again been in full flow, not least in the English press. English enthusiasm for Sallinen has already involved Covent Garden in making this a joint commission with Savonlinna; now there is the cry that it would be scandalous if the Royal Opera did not carry out a plan to stage *The King* in the spring of 1987. However, there is no good reason why Savonlinna's present undoubted triumph should be repeated in London, and there are plenty of reasons why it might well not be.

In the first place, *The King* is a very Finnish piece, a brutal saga done with a kind of innocent fancifulness. Paavo Haavikko's libretto, developed from his own radio play, is about the doings of a king of England at some future time when the ice begins once more to descend. Faced with this chilly prospect, the king, with his prime minister in tow, embarks on an invasion of



Magnificent megalomaniac: Jorma Hynninen

France. There the far future and the past stare at each other through the present. The battle of Crecy and the siege of Calais are re-enacted, and we are nudged to note contemporary relevance in sayings about the Irish question (the authors seem to have been aware too of another ice-bound British military campaign occurring during the time the opera was in progress).

The king is accompanied on his journey not only by his prime minister but also by a nubile quartet of princesses rejoicing in such names as The Nice Caroline, though he marries a fifth lady. His history is partly presented to us by a chronicler, Froissart, who remains ironically detached from a tale of increasing bloodiness, cruelty and insanity. Then at the end it is the king who detaches himself from history, asking Froissart to forget him and just write a pretty story.

Sallinen's music meanwhile is boldly colourful, and boldest in its borrowings. Indeed, one reels amazed from a score which can go straight to Orff's *Carmina Burana* for its opening and often repeated material. Elsewhere the references range from the hollowness of late Shostakovich to the ripe melody of Puccini, and from incisive figures reminiscent of Janáček to sombre ostinatos out of Sibelius. All these are taken into a style which depends overwhelmingly on the repetition of small groups of notes, and on much frank recapitulation. Long lines are as rare as counterpoint or development: the music is effectively scored, with a good deal of tuned

percussion, but in substance it is quite plain. One great virtue of the score lies in the splendid roles it offers to two of Finland's outstanding singers. Jorma Hynninen, a forceful and tenacious Posa in the *Don Carlos*, was magnificent as the megalomaniac monarch: a Richard III in dark, deadly and purposeless earnest. And Jaakko Ryhnen, after a sublimely authoritative Sarastro, cleverly infiltrated weakness into his voice to give a telling portrait of the time-serving Prime Minister. I would guess, though, that these strong characterizations were more imposed on the music than helped by it.

The other great strength of the evening was in Kalle Holmberg's spectacular production, using the whole of the castle's architecture, and even more so in the designs by Ralf Forström. His costumes, in a mixture of samurai, space age and medieval, were perfectly adapted to the dislocated world of *The King*, and it is on his door that any opera house should be knocking first. Thanks to his designs, to superb central performances and to a thoroughly committed production conducted by Okko Kamu, *The King* is in Savonlinna a huge success, and deservedly so. A Covent Garden production, though, will have to work exceedingly hard in order to make the opera live in an international ambience, and seem more worthy of revival than anything else composed beyond these shores in the last three decades.

Paul Griffiths

Rock

Rubber Rodeo

Mean Fiddler, Harlesden

July has proved to be a fruitful time for visiting American bands. London audiences, eager to show their tolerance, flocked to see the talents of the Violent Femmes and Jason and the Scorchers, both idiosyncratic outfits with heavy leanings towards a mutant updated country music. Rubber Rodeo, out of Rhode Island via Missouri, would seem by their name to fit this vogue for eccentric rock 'n' roll, but are really a more traditional group with a dense sound that does not always benefit from a bar-room setting.

A six-piece, Rubber Rodeo combine the guiding elements of sophisticated art rock after the Roky Music manner with some atmospheric interpretations of Nashville standards drawn from the repertoires of Patsy Cline, Dolly Parton and Glen Campbell. It is an intriguing mixture that does not always work. The singers and

writers, Bob Holmes and Trish Milliken, swapped vocals and harmonized with precision but a lack of verve that may have been due to nerves.

There is a slight imbalance in Rubber Rodeo's make-up. Mark Toltmie's pedal steel, undoubtedly their most evocative instrumental trump card, is obscured by an over-reliance on dual keyboards. The lush synthetized textures that enhance the group's excellent *Scenic Views* album are often superfluous lies. When Toltmie took a free rein the effect was inspired.

Indeed, Rubber Rodeo have a wealth of good songs. The recent singles "Anywhere With You" and "The Hardest Thing" are packed with mournful melody while the combined vibrato of Holmes and Milliken would give Bryan Ferry a run for his money. When Rubber Rodeo resolve the dilemma between a mainstream or more eclectic approach they should find a stage presence to match their image.

Max Bell

Television

The soul of wit

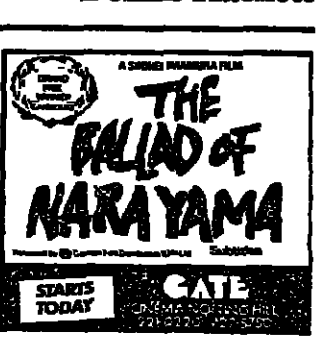
to be usurped, even in times of stress, by his wife. This play deals with his re-education, brought about partly through a chance meeting with a middle-class girl, a single parent, whose candour, lack of embarrassment and independence stick an elbow into his preconceptions of the male-female order. One suspects that, had she been less attractive, his notions might have remained undisturbed, but it was a fair subterfuge.

Mr. Muchan again gave a good portrayal of Pete going through a whole process of re-orientation in the space of a day: from the morning spats of irritation and helplessness to a boozey, funny climax in the sobering waters of the harbour.

David Maloney's direction

was sure, maintaining the sense of action in a play that depended not on the strength of its plot but on close observation. The cast responded well. Phyllis Logan was excellent as Pete's wife Rose, Joseph Marcell provided an engaging cameo as the new town's uninhibited and only Negro, Mr. McGrath's script demonstrated a good ear for dialogue and is not essential to television drama. Let us hope that point will be taken.

Dennis Hackett



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THE TIMES
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5	Barton			5	Barton		5	Barton	
6	Harris Queensway			6	Harris Queensway		6	Harris Queensway	
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12	ELCTRICALS			12	ELCTRICALS		12	ELCTRICALS	
13	CASE			13	CASE		13	CASE	
14	Flacey			14	Flacey		14	Flacey	
15	Eurotherm			15	Eurotherm		15	Eurotherm	
16	Rand Elect			16	Rand Elect		16	Rand Elect	
17	Crysalis			17	Crysalis		17	Crysalis	
18	Ward & Goldstone			18	Ward & Goldstone		18	Ward & Goldstone	
19	ICL			19	ICL		19	ICL	
20	Ferranti			20	Ferranti		20	Ferranti	
21	BSK			21	BSK		21	BSK	
22	INDUSTRIALS A-D			22	INDUSTRIALS A-D		22	INDUSTRIALS A-D	
23	Robcock			23	Robcock		23	Robcock	
24	BOC			24	BOC		24	BOC	
25	Beecham			25	Beecham		25	Beecham	
26	Camford Eng			26	Camford Eng		26	Camford Eng	
27	BBB (J)			27	BBB (J)		27	BBB (J)	
28	AAH			28	AAH		28	AAH	
29	Brown & Tange			29	Brown & Tange		29	Brown & Tange	
30	Booth			30	Booth		30	Booth	
31	ALM			31	ALM		31	ALM	
32	Broken Hill			32	Broken Hill		32	Broken Hill	
33	FOODS			33	FOODS		33	FOODS	
34	Argill			34	Argill		34	Argill	
35	RUM			35	RUM		35	RUM	
36	Tesco			36	Tesco		36	Tesco	
37	Sainsbury (J)			37	Sainsbury (J)		37	Sainsbury (J)	
38	Boys			38	Boys		38	Boys	
39	Unigate			39	Unigate		39	Unigate	
40	Morrison (W)			40	Morrison (W)		40	Morrison (W)	
41	Dix			41	Dix		41	Dix	
42	Holland			42	Holland		42	Holland	
43	Hinton (Ames)			43	Hinton (Ames)		43	Hinton (Ames)	

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No.	Company	1984 High	1984 Low	Company	1984 High	1984 Low	Company	1984 High	1984 Low
101	Time			101	Time		101	Time	
102	Time			102	Time		102	Time	
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105	Time			105	Time		105	Time	
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107	Time			107	Time		107	Time	
108	Time			108	Time		108	Time	
109	Time			109	Time		109	Time	
110	Time			110	Time		110	Time	

MEDIUMS

No.	Company	1984 High	1984 Low	Company	1984 High	1984 Low	Company	1984 High	1984 Low
201	Time			201	Time		201	Time	
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LONGS

No.	Company	1984 High	1984 Low	Company	1984 High	1984 Low	Company	1984 High	1984 Low
301	Time			301	Time		301	Time	
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308	Time			308	Time		308	Time	
309	Time			309	Time		309	Time	
310	Time			310	Time		310	Time	

BREWERIES

No.	Company	1984 High	1984 Low	Company	1984 High	1984 Low	Company	1984 High	1984 Low
401	Time			401	Time		401	Time	
402	Time			402	Time		402	Time	
403	Time			403	Time		403	Time	
404	Time			404	Time		404	Time	
405	Time			405	Time		405	Time	
406	Time			406	Time		406	Time	
407	Time			407	Time		407	Time	
408	Time			408	Time		408	Time	
409	Time			409	Time		409	Time	
410	Time			410	Time		410	Time	

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

No.	Company	1984 High	1984 Low	Company	1984 High	1984 Low	Company	1984 High	1984 Low
501	Time			501	Time		501	Time	
502	Time			502	Time		502	Time	
503	Time			503	Time		503	Time	
504	Time			504	Time		504	Time	
505	Time			505	Time		505	Time	
506	Time			506	Time		506	Time	
507	Time			507	Time		507	Time	
508	Time			508	Time		508	Time	
509	Time			509	Time		509	Time	
510	Time			510	Time		510	Time	

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Support after hours

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, July 16. Dealings End, July 27. Contango Day, July 30. Settlement Day, Aug 6
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	% Yld	P/E
101	101	Time	101			
102	102	Time	102			
103	103	Time	103			
104	104	Time	104			
105	105	Time	105			
106	106	Time	106			
107	107	Time	107			
108	108	Time	108			
109	109	Time	109			
110	110	Time	110			
111	111	Time	111			
112	112	Time	112			
113	113	Time	113			
114	114	Time	114			
115	115	Time	115			
116	116	Time	116			
117	117	Time	117			
118	118	Time	118			
119	119	Time	119			
120	120	Time	120			
121	121	Time	121			
122	122	Time	122			
123	123	Time	123			
124	124	Time	124			
125	125	Time	125			
126	126	Time	126			
127	127	Time	127			
128	128	Time	128			
129	129	Time	129			
130	130	Time	130			
131	131	Time	131			
132	132	Time	132			
133	133	Time	133			
134	134	Time	134			
135	135	Time	135			
136	136	Time	136			
137	137	Time	137			
138	138	Time	138			
139	139	Time	139			
140	140	Time	140			
141	141	Time	141			
142	142	Time	142			
143	143	Time	143			
144	144	Time	144			
145	145	Time	145			
146	146	Time	146			
147	147	Time	147			
148	148	Time	148			
149	149	Time	149			
150	150	Time	150			
151	151	Time	151			
152	152	Time	152			
153	153	Time	153			
154	154	Time	154			
155	155	Time	155			
156	156	Time	156			
157	157	Time	157			
158	158	Time	158			
159	159	Time	159			
160	160	Time	160			
161	161	Time	161			
162	162	Time	162			
163	163	Time	163			
164	164	Time	164			
165	165	Time	165			
166	166	Time	166			
167	167	Time	167			
168	168	Time	168			
169	169	Time	169			
170	170	Time	170			
171	171	Time	171			
172	172	Time	172			
173	173	Time	173			
174	174	Time	174			
175	175	Time	175			
176	176	Time	176			
177	177	Time	177			
178	178	Time	178			
179	179	Time	179			
180	180	Time	180			
181	181	Time	181			
182	182	Time	182			
183	183	Time	183			
184	184	Time	184			
185	185	Time	185			
186	186	Time	186			
187	187	Time	187			
188	188	Time	188			
189	189	Time	189			
190	190	Time	190			
191	191	Time	191			
192	192	Time	192			
193	193	Time	193			
194	194	Time	194			
195	195	Time	195			
196	196	Time	196			
197	197	Time	197			

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Nasty taste in the clearers' honeypot

Over the next week the clearing banks will publish their interim figures, starting with the Midland today. They do so in very peculiar circumstances. Banks have enjoyed one of the fastest compound growth rates of any sector of the economy for about 15 years, and this season's pretax profits are expected to continue the trend. But banks' stock market rating reflects a shoal of uncertainties.

Since 1969, when the clearers first revealed their true profits, dividends have advanced by 13 per cent a year while profits have gone up by almost 16 per cent annually, both ahead of the average inflation rate. Indeed, so conspicuous has their profitability seemed that even Tory chancellors have been unable to resist dipping their hands into the honeypot.

There is, moreover, a remarkable consistency of analysts' opinion about what the next week will bring. Pretax profits overall for the big four clearers will rise by about 8 per cent. Even more important, given the apparently hostile environment, is the feeling that the increase for the full year could be three times as much, thanks to higher interest rates.

Although base rates were a little lower than in the second six months of 1983 average spreads probably widened. This, combined with a rise of perhaps 5 per cent in sterling advances and with higher commissions, should show through on the bottom line.

The only substantial joker in the clearing bank pack is the level of bad debts incurred domestically. It now appears that the tide of company closures is not going out as fast as expected.

There are also telling differences between the individual banks. Crocker National has taken its toll of Midland, whose pretax profits for the latest half year may consequently shrink by a half to about £60m. Barclays, by comparison, is expected in the City to produce an improvement of more than 20 per cent to about £320m.

In the middle come Lloyds, rising by about 17 per cent to £225m, and the Natwest, adding conceivably a fifth to about £230m. Only the Midland is likely to hold its dividend. The others could celebrate their profit rises by giving shareholders 10 per cent more.

So, why are the clearers standing at a discount of 40 per cent to asset values and broadly underperforming the market by yielding some 70 per cent more than the average? In a phrase, the debt crisis. The exposure of the banks to Latin America (and in the recent quarter to Argentina especially) is not as severe as some other international banks and is cushioned by their dependence on retail deposits rather than the money markets. But the lesson of Continental Illinois is that an old-fashioned run on the bank can still happen. The market's confidence has been shaken.

Natwest has not helped by using a slight share recovery for the sector to slap in a big rights issue first. All the banks' capital adequacy is being rebuilt under the Bank of England's watchful eye. Midland might like a rights issue but would find it hard at the moment, making Barclays the most likely candidate. This too will need sorting out before profit growth can show through fully in bank shares.

PAYE cheer in the chip

Nigel Lawson has not had too much to smile about in recent weeks, so he could be forgiven his confident grin as he unveiled the plans for the computerization of the PAYE system yesterday.

The Government has defied the computer boffins' predictions that the timetable would slip by at least two years, and the cost of the project has even proved to be less than budgeted when it was first envisaged back in 1980.

The total cost of setting up the system, at 1984 prices, is £228m plus another £33m to extend it to cope with the self-employed. The Inland Revenue estimates that it will make a 13 per cent return on this investment, largely as a consequence of losing 6,000 jobs.

The taxpayer will also want to know what benefits he will see in tax-processing as a result. After computerization it should be possible at least to read coding notices and tax assessments but apart from this the impact will be much more obscure.

One of the main hopes for the Inland

Revenue is that it will be able to reduce the number of errors it makes when assessing taxpayers. Many of these are due to simple arithmetic mistakes and oversights brought about by tedium.

More significantly, computerization will release more staff to tax the black economy which is currently estimated to be running at between 6 and 8 per cent of gross national product.

However, there is another twist to the computerization tale: self-assessment—the only subject the Chancellor specifically said he would not talk about.

There are no specific plans at the moment to introduce this system for taxpayers but it must be in the Government's mind. US experience suggests that it could work well since everybody must submit a return. Computerization of PAYE is not in itself enough to allow self-assessment to be introduced. However, without computerization the system could never be implemented, so at the very least the door has been opened.

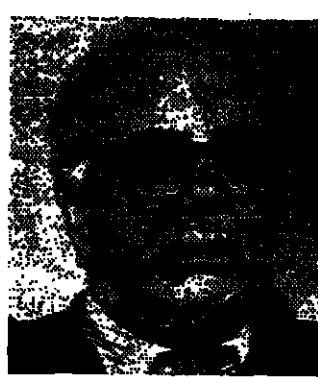
From Bailey Morris Washington

The US Federal Reserve Board will not take steps to restrain the buoyant American economy for the remainder of the year, but has decided to slow growth early next year after the presidential election, when it said hard decisions must be taken.

Mr Paul Volcker, the Central Bank chairman, told Congress yesterday that the board had decided at a meeting last week to move cautiously this year despite its strong fears of signs in the economy which point to renewed inflation, continued high interest rates, spiralling budget deficits, and uneven mid-term growth.

The decision not to take "additional restraining measures" virtually guarantees President Reagan a healthy economy on which to base his reelection campaign.

In his semi-annual report to Congress, Mr Volcker said that the board's projection showed that "for the near term, the prospects for continuing gains in economic activity are favourable."



Paul Volcker

Annual growth is now estimated at 6.5 per cent and unemployment, which averaged 7.5 per cent in the second quarter, is expected to continue to drop. Inflation is expected to rise somewhat from its current low level, but only to an estimated 4 per cent.

Over the mid to longer term, however, Mr Volcker painted a different, much less favourable picture of growth. "Warning signs are flashing," he told members of the senate banking committee.

"The risk in the inflationary outlook quite frankly relates to what happens to the dollar." He predicted that interest rates, now at high levels, would remain high and possibly move upwards, producing strains at home and throughout the world economy.

Both were related to "the unacceptably high federal budget deficit," which would not be reduced appreciably in 1985, and the years beyond, despite the modest down-payment of budget reductions recently signed by President Reagan, the board's projection showed.

Mr Volcker indicated that because of signs of some slowing of growth, and rising fears over the international debt crisis the board had decided against taking steps which would put additional upward pressure on interest rates now.

But early next year, the Central Bank has decided to reign in economic growth slightly, reducing its M1 and M2 targets for money and credit growth by 1 per cent and ½ per cent respectively.

The M3 target range, reflecting growth in domestic credit,

would be left unchanged even though credit growth was expected to exceed significantly the top end of the target range this year.

The real economic test will come next year, when hard decisions must be taken to reduce federal budget deficits of about \$200 billion which are keeping rates high, drawing in high levels of foreign capital, fuelling the upward spiral of the dollar, and resulting in record imports and trade imbalances.

We're becoming a debtor nation. We are borrowing about \$80 billion to \$90 billion dollars abroad to finance these huge deficits," Mr Volcker said. That could go on "for one year or two, but not forever."

President Reagan told a televised press conference he would not raise them, despite growing fears over the record federal budget deficit.

Mr Reagan's remarks were seen as a challenge to Mr Walter Mondale, the Democratic candidate for President, who claims that the President has a secret plan to raise taxes. Mr Mondale said he himself would be forced to raise them if elected.

More men take early retirement

By Sarah Hogg Economics Editor

The over-60s have been dropping out of the workforce rapidly during the 1980s, according to the first results of the 1983 Labour Force Survey. Preliminary figures published in the Department of Employment's July *Employment Gazette* show that men aged 60 to 64 were "economically active" — either in a job or searching for work — declined from 69.6 per cent in 1981 to 59.6 per cent in 1983.

This dramatic fall shows a continued trend towards early retirement among men and narrowing of the gap between male and female retirement ages. The survey also shows 21.6 per cent of women aged 60 to 64 were still "economically active".

ECONOMIC ACTIVITY BY AGE 1983 LABOUR FORCE SURVEY Percentage economically active*			
Age	Male	Female	All
15-19	88.3	84.4	86.9
20-24	90.1	70.1	80.2
25-29	95.9	87.4	91.7
30-34	98.1	89.1	93.7
35-39	98.8	97.8	98.3
40-44	98.8	97.8	98.3
45-49	98.8	97.8	98.3
50-54	98.8	97.8	98.3
55-59	98.8	97.8	98.3
60-64	59.6	21.6	40.6
65+	8.7	3.8	5.8

*Those employed or looking for work as a percentage of the total age-group.

Overall, the proportion of men over school age who were "economically active" declined between 1981 and 1983, but the proportion of women marginally increased — particularly in the 25 to 34-year-old age group. The survey also recorded a further swing from manufacturing to service industries. And, for the first time, more than half of Britain's employed are now in non-manual occupations: the proportion rose from 49.6 per cent in 1981 to 51.1 per cent.

The survey, based on interviews with 77,000 households, is used to revise and update the quarterly employment estimates prepared by the Government's statisticians. The overall figures caused the Department of Employment to raise its estimate of employment in 1983 by 129,000.

But the July *Employment Gazette* contains new detailed estimates of the changes in employment in individual industries over the past year.

These continue the swing from manufacturing to services, with the biggest increases being recorded in retail distribution, banking, finance and insurance, other services and hotels and catering. The biggest losses came in mechanical engineering, other transport equipment and energy.

Jaguar on sale next month for £297m

By Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent

Jaguar, the luxury saloon manufacturing subsidiary of BL, is to be sold to the public early next month at a price which values the business at £297m. The terms of the offer for sale — the latest step in the Government's privatization programme — were announced yesterday, along with profit figures showing that Jaguar continues to benefit from the strong dollar and booming sales in the United States.

Jaguar's entire share capital of 180 million shares is being sold at 165p a share, a relatively conservative price that is designed to take account of the recent weakness in the stock market and still leave some prospect for capital appreciation for those who invest. The £297m valuation of the company compares with recent brokers' estimates that it could be valued at between £300m and £350m.

The prospectus for the issue will be published on Monday and applications for shares have to be in by Friday, August 3. Dealings in the new shares will start shortly after that. The issue has been underwritten by five merchant banks led by Hill Samuel, the issuing house, and sub-underwriting by professional City investment institutions was completed yesterday afternoon.

Jaguar's 9,500 employees, other employees of the BL group and BL's surviving minority shareholders have been given preferential rights to apply for up to 15 per cent of the shares. This is in addition to the 2.12 million shares which Jaguar is paying for itself to distribute to its employees as a profit-sharing bonus.

The prospectus shows that Jaguar made and unaudited profit in the second quarter of this year of around £23m, making a total for the year so far of £43m. The comparable figure in the first half of last year was £25.

Jaguar says that it will be paying a single dividend for this year of 4.75p, though on a full-year basis it would expect to pay out 7.75p a share, which would leave the shares yielding 6.7 per cent. The shares are being sold on a multiple of 6.9 times pro forma earnings in the last 12 months.

Though the flotation is an integral part of the Government's privatization programme, the proceeds will go to BL, which has said it will use the money to pay off borrowings and invest in other parts of the group.

Although the stock market has been weak in the last few weeks, Jaguar has been widely seen in the City as one of the most potentially exciting companies to be sold from the Government's portfolio. It has recovered dramatically from the brink of bankruptcy four years ago to its present position of profitability. Last year it made profits of £50m, and with half its sales in the United States, it continues to benefit from the weakness of the pound against the dollar.

The final prospectus confirms that a limit of 15 per cent has been placed on any individual shareholding until the end of 1990, a move designed to guarantee Jaguar's independence for US first few years as a private sector company.

The prospectus says that sales volume is running at high levels with demand exceeding supply in all main markets. The directors say they are expecting the luxury car market to remain stable for the rest of this year.

The offer for sale is being confined to the London market, with foreign investors barred from dealing in the shares until 90 days after dealings start. Jaguar's directors said yesterday that the price of the issue had been set at a level which struck a balance between market conditions and the potential value of the company.

£38m Minet offer to go ahead

By Alison Eadie

The £38.17m compensation offer made to Lloyd's names by Minet Holdings and Alexander & Alexander Services has gone unconditional. A total of 1,361 names on the former PCW syndicates, or 89 per cent, have accepted it. This represents 85 per cent of the value of the offer.

Minet and Alexander have indications that a further 40 names will accept, bringing the total to 92 per cent by number and 90 per cent by value. They are confident at least a further 50 names with combined losses of only £15.0m will accept.

Their decision to go ahead with the offer with less than 100 per cent acceptance increases their confidence in being able to fend off any legal challenge that may emerge from the disgruntled minority.

The steering committee of names set up to consider the offer meets today to re-form into a group, which will then consider taking legal action. Three members of the 14-man committee accepted the offer, but the remaining 11 reckon they can count on the support of up to 60 names.

Their outstanding grievances, other than the financial inadequacy of the offer and the lack of time given to consider it, are the danger of further losses from the open years, the danger of claims from pre-1979 PCW names, who are excluded from the offer, and the tax claims by the Inland Revenue.

Mr Graham White, managing director of Richard Beckett Underwriting Agencies (formerly PCW), said the spectre of losses is not anticipated on the open years on two still syndicates. Mr Geoffrey Lawson, chairman of the steering committee, said that statement should be warranted. Names should also be indemnified against claims by pre-1979 names, he said.

FTS raises £427,000

Future Technology Systems, the troubled microcomputer company based at Bitch, Stroud, has concluded a £427,000 rights issue which should take it over until the end of August. Shareholders will then be asked for more than £1m more. Only two of the 16 institutional shareholders did not subscribe for the recent issue, which was paid up on July 4.

Sir Monty Finniston, the chief executive said the order book is strong with 350 firm orders in hand and a further 350 anticipated. Production, now running at 170 computers a month, should increase to 250 a month by October.

Customers, who include Ferranti and Honeywell, continue to support the company, said Sir Monty. He hopes to trade profitably again before the end of the year.

A stock market or USM quote, which was on the cards for 1985, could still happen by the end of the year, but is likely to be postponed.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index: 986.2 up 6.6 (high: 986.2; low: 983.8)
FT Index: 702.8 up 6.7
FT 100: 76.21 up 0.12
FT All Share: N/A
Bargains: 16.454
Debtstream USM Leaders
N/A
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average: (latest) 1084.03 down 2.54
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 9,800.11 up 51.15
Hong Kong: Hang Seng Index 758.48 up 3.73
Amsterdam: 145.9 down 0.1
Sydney: AO Index 671.9 up 0.4
Frankfurt: DAX Index 917.7 down 8.5
Buenos Aires: General Index 140.72 down 1.22
Paris: CAC Index 159.4 down 0.2
Zurich: SBA General 291.00 down 1.30

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.3330 up 1 cent
Index 79.2 up 0.2
DM 5.8655 up 0.0050
FF 11.6675 up 0.0100
Yen 327.00 up 1.25
Dollar Index 136.7 down 0.8
DM 2.8515 down 0.0175
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling \$1.3330
Dollar DM 2.8525
INTERNATIONAL
ECU 30.589837
SDR N/A

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 12
Finance houses base rate 9½
Discount market loans week fixed 12
3 month interbank 12½-12¾
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 11¼-11½
3 month DM 5½-5¾
3 month FF 12¼-12½
US rates
Bank prime rate 13.00
Fed funds 11
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period June 8 to July 3 1984, inclusive: 9.488 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am \$337.50 pm \$341.75
close \$343.00 - \$345.50 (£256.75 - 257.25)
New York (latest): \$342.85
Krugers (new coin): \$338.50 - \$355.00 (£264.75 - 265.75)
Sovereigns (new): \$80.50 - \$1.50 (£50.25 - 61.00)
*Excludes VAT

NEWS IN BRIEF

Barclaycard rate rises

Interest rate rises have caught up with Barclaycard borrowers who will now have to pay an extra 0.25 per cent a month on outstanding balances. Barclaycard is raising its rate from 1.75 per cent to 2 per cent a month, which will appear on statements from September 1. But debit balances during August will be charged the new rate retrospectively.

The rise will mean an annual interest rate of 23.1 per cent on purchases and 23.6 per cent on cash advances. From August 1, Barclayloan will go up from 17.3 to 19 per cent and overdraft rates on Cashplan, the secondary cheque account, will rise from 18.25 to 20.25 per cent. Interest on credit Cashplan accounts go up 2 per cent to 8.5 per cent.

● DEE CORPORATION reported pretax profits up from £16.9m to £28.3m on turnover which climbed from £901m to £1.3 billion. The total dividend for the year to the end of April is equivalent to 19p against 16p last time. The group also proposes a four-for-one scrip issue.

● PHOENIX TIMBER GROUP has reported a pretax profit of £936,000 for the year to March 31 against a loss last year of £295,000. Turnover also increased to £48m up from £43.6m. A final dividend of 2.5p makes 4p for the year. It is the first payment for three years.

Temps, page 17

● FIRST HALK pretax profits of Thomas Jourdan, the consumer products group with a big share of Mary Quant fashion royalties, rose a fifth higher to £314,000 on sales a fifth higher at £3.6m. The interim dividend is being maintained at 1.75p. The company is pursuing further acquisitions which could include companies in electrical goods distribution and security products.

Harland diversifies into the electronic sector

By Our Correspondent

Harland and Wolff, the Belfast shipbuilders is diversifying into electronic simulators, with the Central Electricity Generating Board as its likely first customer for a range of mobile power station training simulators. A prototype of the simulators is now under construction in Belfast for use as a company-owned demonstrator in the spring of next year.

The diversification venture was launched without any announcement some months ago when design work began. The project is being assisted

Electricity Council urges capital restructure

Power industry on target

By David Young Energy Correspondent

The electricity industry, which next week is likely to follow the gas industry in reporting record profits, is heading for losses in the next few years despite contributing almost £1 billion a year to government income.

The Electricity Council is predicting that because of its capital structure the industry will hit its earnings target of a 2 per cent return on capital, will pay the Government £670m in taxation, £1,010m through the system of negative external finance limits and make a loss of £340m in 1986-87.

The figures, according to the Electricity Council, show that an urgent restructuring of the accounting procedures under which nationalised industries operate is required.

Figures issued by the Electricity Council the overall authority for the Central electricity Generating Board and the 12 area electricity boards in England and Wales show that because of the financial structure it has now become liable for corporation tax payments and

Electricity Supply Industry medium-term forecasts (£millions)

	1984-5	85-6	86-7	87-8	88-9	89-90	90-1
Taxation	175	620	705	710	690	690	690
Profit-loss	+75	-5	-340	-360	-278	-195	-98
Direct contribution to Government	1746	900	1010	690	655	486	242

will move into the red in 1985-86 and remain there until the end of the decade.

During that period it will contribute on average £1 billion a year to the Government in the form of taxation or direct payment to the Treasury.

The industry had always been liable for corporation tax payments, but has in the past been able to take advantage of 100 per cent capital allowances on most of its new investment. However, changes in the last Budget and the present low level of planned investment mean that corporation tax will be payable from 1985-86 onwards.

Nevertheless the industry still plans to keep electricity price rises at levels no higher than the rate of inflation and to go ahead with plans for new

power station building if the present Sizewell inquiry gives approval for a pressurised water-cooled reactor (PWR).

Mr Philip Jones, the Electricity Council chairman, said: "Our aim is to provide customers with a reliable supply of electricity at as low a price as possible."

"The signs are encouraging. We expect that over the next seven years the industry will achieve further improvements in efficiency, hold prices to no more than the rate of inflation, secure our competitive position within the energy sector and build on the upturn in electricity sales."

The industry's medium-term plan also shows its continuing commitment to coal as a major fuel.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

● CAPFYNS: The chairman, Mr Alan M. Caffyn, says the improvement of last year has been continued. Turnover for first three months is up by £2.15m (11 per cent) and the company estimates that it has made a small profit as opposed to a loss of nearly £100,000 for the same three months in 1983.

● CHUBB AND SONS: Chubb is increasing the sale of its fire vehicles business based in Feltam, Middlesex, to Gloucester, a Hawker Siddeley subsidiary. The considerations for the main part of Chubb's Fire Security's fire crash tender business is about £2m cash.

● BP-KALDAIR: Kaldair, one of the BP ventures group, companies, has acquired Turley International, a company specializing in combustion technology. Turley's turnover for the past five years has averaged £2m.

● LCP HOLDING: The chairman, Mr David Read says the group has made an encouraging start to the new year. Unaudited results for the three months to June 30, indicate a pretax profit of £2.2m (£1.5m for the same three months in 1983). The increase in profit has arisen predominantly through Whitlock in the United States and vehicle distribution in Britain.

● BRASWAY: Final 12.5 per cent (nil) making 20 per cent (10 per cent) for 52 weeks to April 28. Figures in 2000. Turnover 18,085 (£16,324). Pretax profit 422 (loss 389). Tax 119 (CDD 60). Extraordinary debt 165 (credit 39), earnings a share 6.54p (loss 7.08p). Shares unchanged at 45.

● LEDA INVESTMENT TRUST: Six months to June 30. First interim dividend 2.1p (2.03p) per interim share payable on August 31. Figures in 2000. Gross revenue 228 (220). Expenses 24 (28). Per interest 15 (13). Tax 59 (60). Earnings per share 2.66p (2.42p).

● SWITLAND: The offer of Switland Leisure for the whole issued share capital of Midsummer Inns has been accepted in respect of 134,400 Midsummer shares. This together with 224,425 shares already owned by Switland, represents about 41.02 per cent of Midsummer's issued share capital. The offer will remain open until August 10.

COALITE GROUP

"We have an impressive backing of resources to enable us to take full advantage of the steady and widespread recovery in business."

Whether the coal industry and our own solid fuel businesses are to suffer any material damage to their markets will depend on how long the miners' strike is to continue. Whatever the outcome, our wide spread of other activities can be expected to provide adequate shelter."

(From Chairman's Statement)

Ted Needham, Chairman

GROUP RESULTS	1984	1983
	£000	£000
Turnover	441,774	415,925
Profit before tax	32,530	27,340
Tax	12,602	11,637
Dividends	4,988	4,343
Earnings per share	23.17p	18.26p

The main activities of the group comprise solid smokeless fuel manufacture, oil and chemicals processing, fuel distribution, vehicle building and distribution, transport, warehousing and shipping services, builders' merchanting, instrument manufacture, and sheep farming in the Falkland Islands.

10

OLYMPIC GAMES: PREVIEW OF THE HOCKEY AND ROWING EVENTS

Britain short of attacking personalities to turn promise into achievement

Thirty two years have passed since Britain won an Olympic medal in hockey. That was at Helsinki in 1952. The team was then a mix of amateurs and professionals. The 1984 team, however, is a professional side. The British side could well do with a player of the class of Mike Corby, Richard Oliver or Tony Ekins who led the team at Munich in 1972. Without equivalent creative flair so necessary in building attacks, Britain will be handicapped against the stronger sides in the tournament.

Form suggests that Pakistan, the world champions, and the Netherlands should qualify from group B for the semi-finals. The competition in group A involving Australia, India (the Olympic champions), West Germany, Spain, Malaysia and the United States will be much fiercer. The three strongest sides here are Australia, India and West Germany and it is a disquieting thought that one of them will go home empty-handed.

forward, are first and resourceful. After watching Britain's recent performances in Barcelona, however, Horst Wein, of West Germany, said "usually the Spanish coach, sustained on the team's weakness with a pointed question: 'Where are the personalities?' He was thinking of the linchpins of other teams such as Heiner Doppe (West Germany), Richard Charlesworth (Australia) - men who could turn the fortunes of a game in a matter of minutes.

The British side could well do with a player of the class of Mike Corby, Richard Oliver or Tony Ekins who led the team at Munich in 1972. Without equivalent creative flair so necessary in building attacks, Britain will be handicapped against the stronger sides in the tournament.

The all-conquering Australians have won five gold medals in international tournaments starting at Melbourne in December 1982 and ending in West Berlin a couple of months ago. They are the favourites for the gold medal in Los Angeles but of their group rivals they fear India the most, remembering that in the Champions Trophy tournament at Karachi last October India who were 1-3 down came back to level at 3-3.

Australia, silver medal winners in 1980 and 1972 will, as the best prepared side, be the hardest to beat. The Asian challenge, however, cannot be discounted. If there is a meeting between India and Pakistan, either in the semi-finals or the final, the East Los Angeles College Stadium at Monterey Park, with seating accommodation for 20,000 and a splendid artificial turf pitch, should be filled.

Sydney Friskin

Leading German is out of 5,000m

INGELHEIM, West Germany (Reuters) - Thomas Wessinghage, who was one of the main threats to David Moorcroft in the 5,000 metres in Los Angeles, has pulled out of the Olympics with a broken foot, there by dealing another blow to West Germany's medal hopes.

Wessinghage, aged 32, a former European 5,000 metres champion who competed in the 1972 and 1976 Olympics, had been in pain for some weeks, but doctors could not find out why. It emerged this week that his foot was broken.

I'm disappointed that eight years of training have virtually gone down the drain, but I'm relieved about the diagnosis because I had doubts about my abilities during training when everybody said my foot was okay," he said.

Another leading West German middle distance runner, Willi Wulbeck and Patriz Ilg, world champions in the 800 metres and 3,000 metres steeplechase respectively, had previously withdrawn.

John Walker, the 1976 Olympic 1,500 metres champion, has criticized the Los Angeles track programme which prevents him from doubling in his gold medal event and the 5,000 metres. "Three rounds of the 5,000 metres is really stupid," he said. "The first round is just eliminating people who should not be there anyway."

Both events will be run over the same four days and he is as yet undecided which event to choose. The New Zealander added: "It's a tough decision but it is one I will have to make."

Marking is worrying US coach

Los Angeles (Reuters) - Don Peters, the American coach, yesterday said he was worried by the marking of his team's show-down with China and the favourites, Romania.

Peters said he was concerned by the women's team competition compulsory exercises, which decreed the Americans take the stage before the Chinese and the Romanians.

He told reporters: "There is a very definite advantage to being in the final session. When the judges score the Romanians and the Chinese six hours behind us, I hope they keep in mind what we did. And he added: "We are concerned over the draw. The judges may be tight on us because they don't know what is going on."

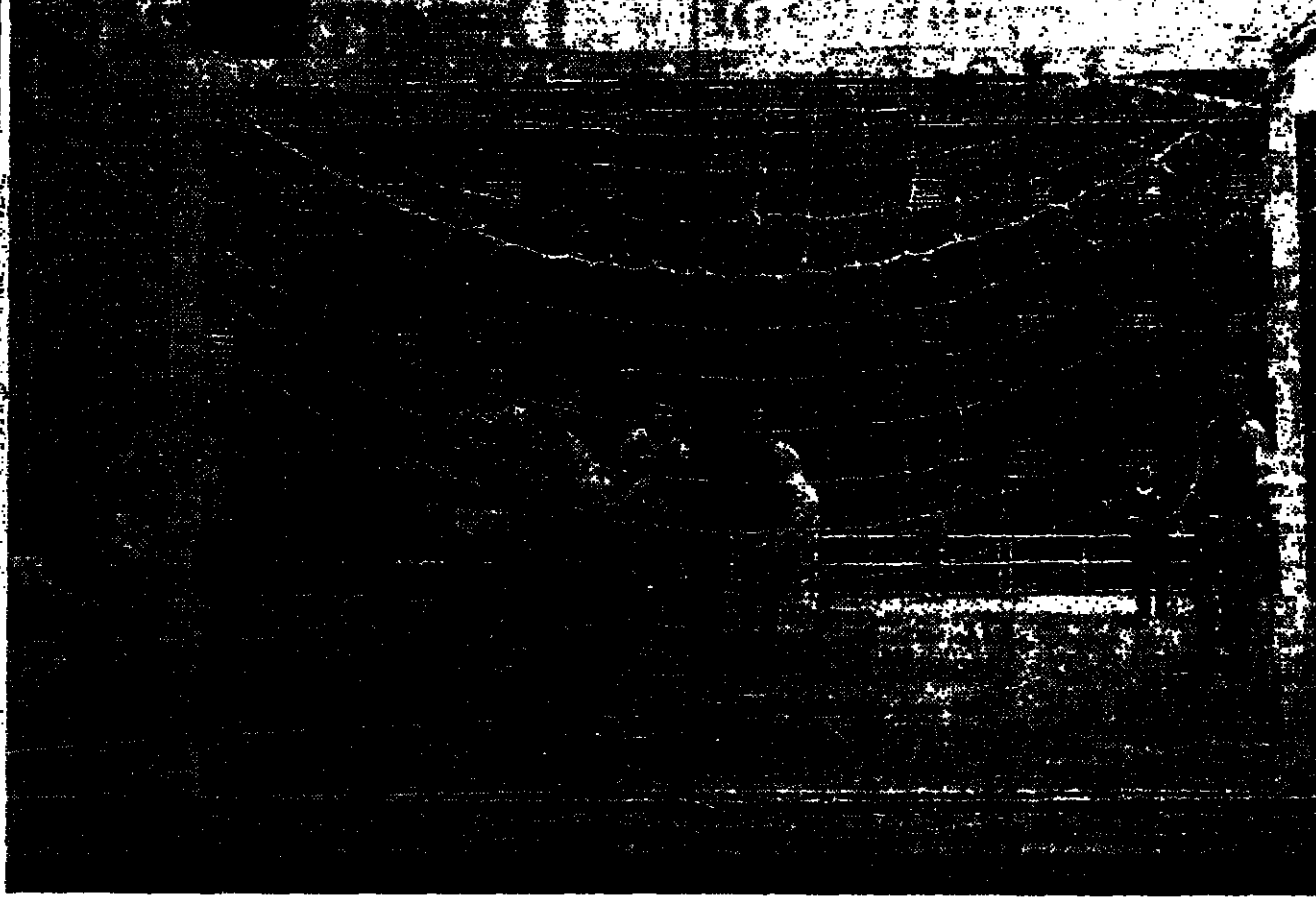
Peters' fears over possible harsh marking were also expressed by the United States' first gold medal in the event.

The mystery sellout

Los Angeles (AP) - Handball, the most popular Olympic sport, is proving one of the surprise attractions of the Olympic Games. But it looks as if its new-found popularity is more the result of a popular misconception than of a widespread discovery of its intrinsic merits.

For it appears that the reason why the tournament, which starts on Tuesday, is a sell-out is that people believe they are going to see something quite different from the spectacle which awaits them - namely that of a sport which combines the speed of football with the speed of basketball.

How the inmates of Stafford play ball and beat the system



Walls have eyes... Behind the barred windows are the grandstand spectators at this home fixture in the handball league

Unlocking the gates of a gaol where the goal is a sense of freedom

The door stays locked because this is prison, but in the weight-training room the lifters have their own kind of freedom, alone with the challenge of their sport.

Space is as fully utilized as it can be. Portable goals are propped against the wall of the old execution chamber while a handball match in the gym means that when you step through the door you are in the back of the net.

Stafford is a training prison, one of the country's largest, with an average daily population of 700 men, mostly young, all previously convicted. Sport is their safety valve. "An organized letting-off of steam is essential," Colin Heald, the governor, says. "If you do not have an organized one, then you are liable to have a disorganized one."

On any normal day 200 prisoners cannot find a place in the workshops, making tubular furniture or sewing mailbags; but they can find an outlet in recreation, for exercise is compulsory; and for those who want it there is football, basketball, handball, volleyball, gymnastics and weight-training.

About 170 men go through the gym each day. With extra evening activities, an inmate could spend more time out of his cell doing sport than in it. Prison sport has come a long way since the turn of the century, when it was believed that gymnastics would undoubtedly lead to mass suicides.

Through sport, inmates nowadays can build not just fitness but also self-confidence. Last year more than 28,000 hours were spent on weight-training and George

Hodgson, the principal officer in charge of physical education, has no doubts about its value. "People fear an inmate getting strong," he says. "Once a man has built himself up he becomes so concerned about his body and his fitness that it takes his mind off other things. His achievement is probably the thing that turns him away from crime."

The prison sports clubs have teams competing in local leagues - Midlands League handball on the only outdoor court in the league, Midlands League football on a hired pitch and West Midlands League basketball in the gym. The men chosen to play are screened, which means that some of the best players never get to away games. As Mr Hodgson says: "The people we take we trust not to try to escape. If an inmate ran away from sport his mates would not respect him for it. It is not mainly. It would be cheating."

Those who do go are expected to behave. The handball team had an excellent disciplinary record until in three consecutive games they had a player sent off - twice for dissent and once for an attempted head butt. The head butt will not play for the team again.

The after-match drink is tea and the chat over biscuits is usually about sport. The inmates do not seem to want to talk about prison; perhaps it is too unpleasant. Occasionally, the players get baited by their opponents on court. When that happens Mr Hodgson has a word with the visiting captain. Usually, however, relations are cordial.

No title or cups has been won at Stafford but that is not the point. "Our job is social training," Mr Hodgson explains. "When a fellow plays football he is in a different world, not in prison. We get a glimpse of him as he is outside and from that we can often apply some remedial treatment."

Sport relieves the social strain in cramped, disciplined surroundings. "It is a chance to run around and breathe in air

that is not stale," Mr Hodgson says. "In the team a man can have a good shout without anybody bothering him. If he started screaming in his cell he'd be in trouble."

Shortage of space is the problem but there are plans for expansion. An area large enough for a football pitch is being incorporated into the prison and in about a year's time a grass pitch should be available, with an all-weather surface planned for the future. Longer term, and tied in with the redevelopment of the largely Victorian prison fabric, is a sports hall to provide badminton courts, a full-sized basketball court and indoor handball.

Its charges held secure within massive perimeter walls, Stafford Prison is an island in the town. Mr Heald wants to change that. "We are a public service and we have a lot of resources to offer the town," he says. Selected men near the end of their sentences go out into the community to help the disabled play sport.

Half a dozen inmates, anonymous for their own benefit, go on tracksets to the town's sports centre each week under supervision and help the disabled.

There are visits to other centres for the disabled and sometimes the disabled visit the prison. Ross Brown, the secretary of the Cheslyn Hey Ours, a sports club for the disabled says: "The prisoners can give friendship and physical help to the disabled and the disabled can help them by making them feel wanted."

Peter, who is serving 16 months for a deception offence involving drugs, took up weight-training in prison. He gave his precious power-lifting certificates to John, a patient at a home for the severely disabled. "He's been an inspiration for me," Peter says. "It is the handicapped who are in the biggest prison, and they stay in for ever."

Paul Harrison



Catral: short corners expert



Duthie: change of position

Britain have one banker for a medal in the coxed four

Having a policy in the formation of their crews, Britain's rowing selectors must be hoping for good results in the Olympic regatta on Lake Charles, 40 miles north of Los Angeles, on Monday. They have at least one banker in the coxed four, who have beaten all their likely rivals this season, with the exception of New Zealand, last year's world champions.

New Zealand are reported to have switched the men who took the coxed four gold medal last year to the coxed pairs, so they must be regarded as an unknown quantity. But at least a silver or a bronze must be Britain's objective in the coxed event.

The justification of the selection policy arguably depends more on the performance of the eight than of the coxed four. Medals in the Men's eights will be hard to come by. New Zealand are likely favourites, with the United States possible silver medalists. If that assessment is correct then Australia, bronze medalists in 1983, "Caldwell", who won well on the first day of Lucerne regatta this year, and Britain are likely to be scrapping for the bronze.

Britain's other three men's crews, the coxed four and coxed and coxed pairs, cannot realistically be reckoned medal prospects and will be hoping for a kind draw to help them into the grand final. The international repêchage draw system can be kind, as well as unkind. No British scullers have been nominated for the first time since the modern Olympic regatta was inaugurated in 1900. In 16

Olympics since 1908 British scullers have won five gold medals, two silvers and one bronze, with three fourth places. There have been only three occasions on which Britain have not had a sculler in an Olympic grand final - from which one must surely conclude that this year's policy has been disastrous for British sculling.

Britain probably have the best ever women's eight - Romanians, United States and Canada are the likely medalists, with Britain and West Germany competing for the fourth place. The women's events will be more affected by the Eastern bloc boycott than the men's and Romanians, who have retained the boycott, can expect a bonus: possibly with gold or silver medals in every event.

Richard Burnell

From the cradle to the bar

By Peter Aykroyd

The age of world-class gymnasts, which has dropped dramatically over the last decade, may drop further if the findings of a recent Soviet report on training are taken up widely by top coaches.

The report, by sports doctors at the Moscow School of Gymnastics, concludes that gymnastics training with elite performers in mind is not only possible but even necessary for children of five and six years of age if confined to body conditioning, supplying exercises and simple moves linked with the development of quick reaction.

Dr Frank Cramer, consultant to the British Amateur Gymnastics Association, however, adds a caution: "Six-year-olds can handle conditioning and supplying, but they should not be pushed beyond that as their bones are not yet formed."

It is widely accepted that children should not begin apparatus training before the age of eight because of stress to the epiphyseal growth centres at the ends of bones. The wrists, ankles, shoulders and lower back are thus potential problem areas and most gymnasts can expect injuries at these points at some stage in their careers.

This trend was exemplified recently at the European junior championships by 17-year-old Sergei Gusev of the Soviet Union, who won the overall crown. Gusev performed a unique vault - a twist and a piked forward somersault with a 540 degree turn - which to date has not been emulated. He may well be a future world champion, if he follows in the tradition of Yuri Korneev and Dmitri Bolotin, the two previous junior champions, who both took the world title soon after.



Golden welcome: Nadia Comaneci, who swept all before her in the women's gymnastics at the Montreal Olympics in 1976, returns to the North American continent to lead the Romanian current gymnasts in their quest for medals at the Los Angeles Games. Eight years ago Miss Comaneci, then aged 14, won three golds, one silver and a bronze, scoring a maximum 10 on two occasions. Romania are the only Eastern block country not to boycott the Los Angeles Olympics, and as such are treated as heroes by the Americans.

By a Special Correspondent

Britain loses leading skier

Britain's leading alpine skier, Nick Wilson, aged 24, has just left the British ski team to join the Canadians as their number two slalom coach. He had been open about being relegated to the British squad's C team by the British Ski Federation (BSF) after achieving in Sarajevo the best placing for a British male skier in Olympic history when he finished sixteenth in the slalom.

"The BSF have added insult to injury by asking me to pay £1,500 team fees. I feel on a par with the downhillers in the A team who are getting the maximum support available," he said before flying to Ottawa, where he will sign an eight-month contract today.

Brigadier Anthony Fielder, general secretary of the BSF, said: "We would like to strive for full support for our skiers, but because we have only a few skiers we have to select our teams on merit. Wilson's achievements have been exceptional, but according to our criteria he wasn't good enough for the higher team."

New club rising from the ashes of Blue Dragons

By Keith Macklin

Although the death knell of Cardiff's Blue Dragons appeared to be sounded yesterday, a Welsh team will play in the second division next season, subject to League approval and the proper formation of team and ground facilities.

The new venture, supported by a five-man consortium in South Wales, would be based at Bridgend football ground, which recently successfully staged a Universities international match between Wales and England.

Early yesterday afternoon Jack Leonard, chairman of Kenton Utilities, the company backing Cardiff City, stepped out, and placed the club in the hands of the liquidator, just as Fulham had done a week ago. Almost simultaneously the five-man consortium, with representatives from Barry, Cardiff

Casuals to challenge Council decision

By Paul Newman

Corinthian-Casuals are to appeal against the refusal by Wandsworth Council's planning committee to grant the club permission to make essential improvements to their new ground in Wimbledon Park.

Casuals were planning to move into the ground, their first permanent home in their 102-year history, in time for the start of the forthcoming season. The Ismailian League are insisting that all their clubs should have their own grounds, which have to meet specific standards.

Casuals, who in the past have shared grounds with other clubs, applied for planning permission for floodlights, an extension to a stand and a car park. Half of the Wimbledon Park Stadium falls within the boundary of Merton

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15 UPPER GROSVENOR ST, W1X 0AP

PERSONNEL OFFICER £11,500

Our client, a very well known international company seeks an experienced Personnel Officer to be responsible for all recruitment to management level. A previous secretarial background is essential and you should have retained your secretarial skills 80/50 for your own use. A knowledge of salary and pension administration would be preferable but is not essential. Age 25+.

Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants
18 Grosvenor Street London W1 Telephone 01-499 8070
23 College Hill London EC4 Telephone 01-236 3712

FAMOUS INTERNATIONAL
FASHION DESIGNER

Requires manager for Mayfair shop
Competence to handle day-to-day administration of the business, experience in handling course merchandise and clients, ability to stimulate sales and motivate staff are essential qualifications.

Apply in writing with CV to Mrs P Bond, 9 Woodmill House, Trinity Road, London, SW18

Kensington Public Relations Agency

needs Secretary/Office Manager.
£3,500 pa. Small friendly creative team in West Office.
Write to:
Linda Wilson
Phillips & Hill Associates,
28 Adams & Eve Street,
High Wycombe, Bucks HP12 3JL

SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS

Permanent post for experienced Secretary in busy progressive estates and sporting lodge office. Excellent accommodation, terms. Send CV to: TULCHAN LODGE, Grantown-on-Spey, Moray

PRIVATE SECRETARY

First class private secretary with excellent skills & ability to handle confidential work on own initiative required. Salary £10,000 p.a. plus benefits. 3 bedrooms plus study provided if required. Box 66228 The Times

Reception £7,000

Majority of Co with beautiful offices, organising travel and hotel bookings. Monarch switchboard.

Phone
Masterlock Recruitment
936 1045

Susan Beck
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

100 BELFORD ST, W1P 8JL

RECEPTIONIST

There is now a vacancy for a full-time receptionist in London's most exclusive health club in the heart of the West End. Applicants must have had hotel/cub experience, have an attractive appearance, friendly and outgoing personality and the ability to cope under pressure. Excellent career prospects are offered for the right candidate. Salary £7,000 pa neg. according to experience.

Applications to:
SHARON HUNT,
Tel: 01-499 3325

COLLEGE LEAVERS

£8,240
Go ahead training organisation in W1 needs 2 Secretary/Course Administrators. You'll arrange meetings, courses, conferences, produce programmes and letters and work with bright, punchy people. Lots of hard work, scope and involvement. Graduate level college leavers with 50 wpm typing. Please ring 408 024

Love & Tate Agts

Personal Assistant/Secretary

Required to assist Partner of West End solicitors. Client contact essential. Salary £8,000 upwards to successful applicant. Modern offices. Young firm. Pleasant informal atmosphere.

Call Jonathan Krause
01-734 7162
or 01-434 1866

EURO BOND SETTLEMENTS ASSISTANT

Euro Bond brokers seek intelligent individuals to train for the position of Euro Bond Settlements Assistant. The ideal candidate will be bright and willing to accept discipline, general office responsibilities and a willingness to learn. Experience would be helpful but is not required. We offer excellent salary & benefits and a relaxed and steady working environment. Please reply in confidence.

Box 66428 The Times

Reception £7,000

Majority of Co with beautiful offices, organising travel and hotel bookings. Monarch switchboard.

Phone
Masterlock Recruitment
936 1045

Susan Beck
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

100 BELFORD ST, W1P 8JL

General Appointments

HIGH-TECH ELECTRONICS Marketing Director Designate

Home Counties

This new appointment is to head up the marketing thrust of an expanding, dynamic company in high-technology electronic components. The Company and its products are well founded and have the backing of a multi-national corporation.

The key task involves the formulation and implementation of marketing strategies for the range of Company products in the UK and Europe. The successful candidate will achieve a full Board position after 12 months.

£25,000

Much scope exists for the exercise of product management talents and market development expertise. Particular knowledge of the semiconductor industry and experience of S.E. Asia are highly desirable. Performance standards are stringent. Size, challenge and opportunity abound.

A degree in electronics engineering or a related discipline with a record of sustained commercial achievement is required. Candidates aged under 35 are unlikely to have acquired sufficient experience for the position.

Write in complete confidence, enclosing a detailed CV, to:

I.C. Taylor
ANTHONY NEVILLE INTERNATIONAL LIMITED
Los Angeles, Baltimore, The Hague, Dubai, Singapore, Hong Kong, Tokyo,
12 Menden Close, Chisleham, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG24 0TH
Telephone: Haverwood (025 579) 5089

MANAGER PERSONNEL SERVICES NORTHERN HOME COUNTIES

(c £11,000 + Benefits)

We are looking for a Personnel specialist - reporting to the Site Personnel Manager - to be responsible for first line industrial relations and the administration of a busy Personnel Department, whose activities cover all employment-related matters. As a successful, high-technology Company, the person we want will have an imaginative approach to recruitment at all levels.

The successful candidate will be educated to degree or equivalent level, (probably MIPM) and will have at least 5 years' experience in a manufacturing environment. Specific experience in the Engineering industry (preferably a Federated Company) would be an advantage.

If you think that your qualifications and experience fit you for this opportunity and you wish to develop your career within an international company, please send details with full CV to:

Box 2482H H The Times.

PRODUCTION CONTROLLER

Northern Home Counties

(c £11,000 subject to review)

We employ around 1500 on a site in Hertfordshire, with a wide range of high precision electro-mechanical and mechanical products, manufactured in small batch quantities. The Production function is supported by MRP computer systems and COPICS is being introduced. The ideal candidate must have a proven record in a similar environment.

This is an excellent opportunity for a young, ambitious Production Controller who wishes to develop a career in manufacturing industry. If you think that you may be the right person for this job, please send details with a full cv to:

Box No 0638R THE TIMES

CONSULTANTS/ TRAINERS FOR AMM

Life in AMM in 1984 is exciting.

You know we are the UK's leading providers of tailored sales, support and management training for the computer, aviation and telecommunications industries.

Did you know

- we are growing at 30% p.a.
- we have opened a 10th office
- we have new clients in the Psychology of Selling and Organisation Development
- we have new office premises in the Psychology of Selling and Organisation Development
- we undertake sales consultancy as well as training

To maintain our growth we need more consultants/trainers, to sell and provide our services

We have varied backgrounds, but key indicators for you are:

- a record of success in your chosen field
- experience in sales and/or support in a high technology industry
- fully independent and adaptable personality who could enjoy training
- age 32 - 40

We offer

- an initial remuneration package of salary and bonus of £20K+
- a company car
- a benefits package including BUPA, pension and life insurance
- an exciting and challenging life

Write initially to John E. Meeks making a sound case for us to interview you.

AMM, 13/15 CHURCH STREET, MELBURN, HERTS AL3 6LN. TELEPHONE: 043771 5011



DESCAMPS

style primrose border
France's leading manufacturer of high quality bed-linen and towelings require a

MANAGERESS

for the Descamps Boutique in Soane Street
Candidates must have retail experience and be efficient in all aspects of retail management. An acute awareness of design and colour concepts is necessary. Some knowledge of French is useful. This is an excellent opportunity within a growing international company. Please send c.v. with photo and desired salary to: Mr G. Gagny, Descamps, 197 Soane Street, London SW1

HORTICULTURISTS

For Saudi Arabia
£17K + neg.
One year renewable contracts. BSC or HWC Horticulture. Minimum 3 years' experience.
01-404 4854
CARREFOUR AGENCY

Stimulating Jobs Opportunities for people-orientated full-timers or part-timers

International Service Company which gives assistance to employees of major UK and multi-national companies has various vacancies in our Home Finding Department where we counsel incoming employees and find and show them properties.

We require well presented, caring, service-orientated people who can relate well to Clients and Suppliers both face to face and on the phone. Estate Agency experience desirable but not essential. Rewards vary according to the position concerned. Full-time appeal to exceptional school leavers and those with job experience who are looking for a more satisfying opening. Attractive surroundings in New Bond Street office. Phone for an application form to Mrs J. Naylor, Merrill Lynch Relocation, 01-829 9222.

Head of Marketing Communications R&D

Standard Telecommunication Laboratories (STL) is recognised worldwide as a leading research and development centre in telecommunications, information technology and associated materials sciences.

Our many achievements include pioneering work in fibre optics, PCM, lasers and VLSI as well as inventions such as the world's first single chip radio.

We now seek an ambitious man or woman, experienced in managing the high technology "marketing environment" to exploit aggressively our considerable resources to the full.

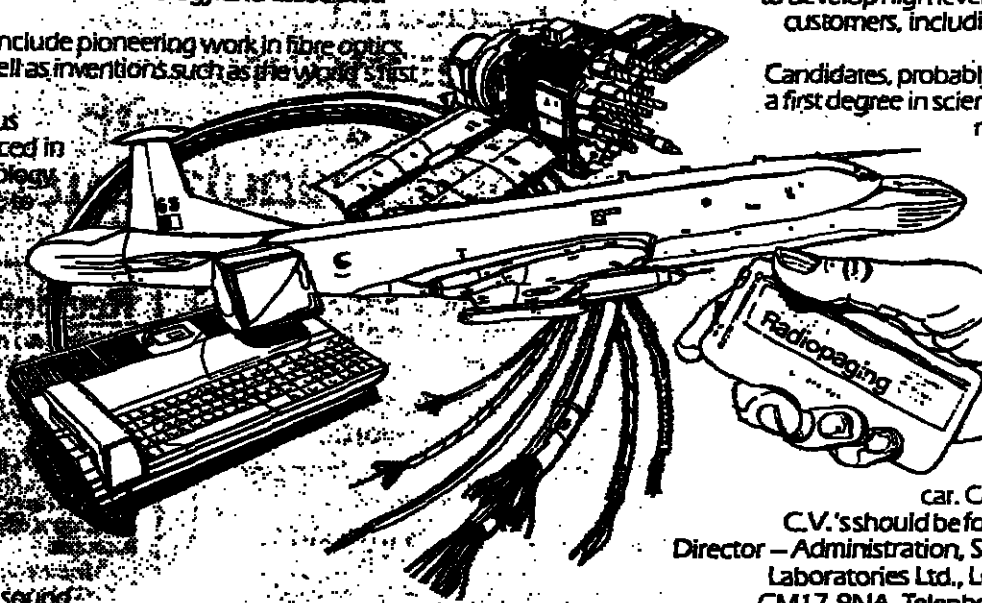
As Marketing Manager of STL you will be a member of the top management team, and be responsible to the Managing Director for developing professional techniques in tendering, pricing, contract negotiation and administration. The effective operation of the function will be based on sound

revenue forecasting and the use of modern computer-based systems. You will control a staff of about 20 but will be expected to develop high level personal contacts with major customers, including national and international government agencies.

Candidates, probably aged around 40, will possess a first degree in science or engineering. Training in modern marketing techniques is desirable with at least five years' experience in a responsible marketing position preferably in a high technology industry.

The level and importance of the position will be reflected in a compensation and benefits package which will be attractive to candidates currently earning around £25,000 plus car. Career prospects are excellent.

C.V.'s should be forwarded to Mr. P. D. Thoday, Director - Administration, Standard Telecommunication Laboratories Ltd., London Road, Harlow, Essex, CM17 9NA. Telephone: 0279 29531, ext. 2115.



STANDARD TELECOMMUNICATION LABORATORIES

AN STC TECHNOLOGY COMPANY

Operations Controller Financial Controller

(Trading and Manufacturing)

Age 38-48. Excellent ex-patriate terms

A large trading group with significant interests in agriculture, commerce and industry in one of the more stable developing countries, has recruited a new chief executive. Reporting to the chief executive, these positions offer key roles in the implementation of strategic plans for developing and controlling the future growth and profitability of the group.

The position of operations controller calls for senior management experience in trading and manufacturing. The financial controller's remit will cover all aspects of the group's activities and substantial treasury experience will be most advantageous. Both positions demand first hand experience of third world operations.

Salaries will be commensurate with the considerable responsibilities. The package will permit a good standard of living and

the ability to remit without difficulty significant sums of hard currency. Additional benefits include a 25% tax free gratuity on completion of the contract, car, furnished accommodation and assistance with school fees. Initial contracts will be for three years.

The location is attractive and healthy with good social and sporting amenities.

Please reply in confidence quoting reference 5355/M, to M. R. P. Blomdenhagen, Executive Selection Division, Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co., 165 Queen Victoria Street, Blackfriars, London EC4V 3PD.



Business Systems Analyst

An important role in the maximisation of D.P. resources.

As the effect of high technology on business and industry becomes even greater, it is essential for any growing company to use its data processing facilities to the full. Our client, a successful international manufacturer of glass containers has an extensive network of micro, mini and mainframe computers. To ensure these are employed to their maximum potential in areas such as Personnel, Planning, Pricing, Sales forecasting, and accounting procedures, they seek an experienced Business Systems Analyst.

In order to translate the complexities of the facilities available to all levels of management, so that the needs of end users are understood and met, excellent communication skills are essential. These should be combined with a business related degree or equivalent and a full understanding of, and previous exposure to, computerised systems probably gained in either O & M, Financial or Manufacturing environments.

Responsible to the Systems Planning Manager you will play an important role within the Business Systems team in the control of distributed systems planning and its implementation.

A salary of c.£12k depending on the depth of your experience is supported by benefits which include BUPA, pension and life assurance schemes and subsidised restaurant.

Please send full career details, quoting ref: T748, and listing separately any companies to which your application should not be forwarded, to Mr. C. Plovman, Riley Advertising (Southern) Limited, Old Court House, Old Court Place, Kensington, London W8 4PD.

ANDERSON BIRMINGHAM BRISTOL EDINBURGH GLASGOW LIVERPOOL LONDON MANCHESTER NEWCASTLE NOTTINGHAM PERTH

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SOLICITOR FOR FINANCE COMPANY

London based finance company engaged in large ticket leasing and secured lending transactions, in particular in the aircraft and real estate markets, seeks Solicitor with experience in documentation of leasing transactions, litigation and contract law to join its Legal Department.

The successful applicant will be fully qualified in English law and will have at least 5 years' experience.

The right person will be rewarded by a competitive salary, company car, BUPA, non-contributory pension scheme and free life assurance.

Please apply initially in writing, enclosing a detailed Curriculum Vitae and stating current salary to:

Box 0637 R The Times

General Manager

Probe Technical Services is a small but rapidly expanding technical services company involved with structural investigations and materials testing and evaluation. In order to maintain and consolidate this expansion the Company requires a young energetic Manager who is prepared to look after the day-to-day financial and managerial responsibilities.

The ideal candidate would be 30 years old, have experience in financial and administrative matters pertaining to a technical company and possess an accountancy/management/engineering qualification. He should be ambitious enough to aspire to a seat on the board in a very short time.

Initial salary up to £15,000 + car and other fringe benefits.

Apply in confidence to Dr P J E Sullivan
Probe Technical Services
Old Approach, Tolpits Lane,
Watford WD1 8XA

GEOPHYSICAL PROGRAMMERS

— up to £20,000

Ensign Geophysics Ltd is a newly formed British geophysical services company engaged in seismic data processing. We will be working on an EXSI 6400 new generation, super mini computer and using a well established seismic software package.

We are interested in hearing from programmers at all levels of experience, including a department supervisor, who are seeking the challenge and potential rewards of a new company.

Applications in writing, containing a brief C.V., should be made to:

Mr J Makin Ensign Geophysics Ltd Ensign House
Brighton Road Addlestone Weybridge Surrey
KT15 1PU

ENSGN Geophysics Ltd

Purchasing Manager

An experienced Purchasing Manager - preferably qualified and from the medical world - is needed to head up the purchasing function at this busy private hospital situated opposite the Imperial War Museum, London SE1.

A computerised supplies system is now being installed, and a major extension to the Clinic will start before the end of 1984.

The postholder will be responsible for all aspects of materials purchasing, and for the maintenance function and associated activities.

Salary not less than £9,000 per annum plus fringe benefits.

Details from David Henderson (General Manager) Tel: 01-828 5633 Ext. 202. Closing date: Monday 27th August 1984.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF ART

Applications are invited for the following posts in the SCHOOL OF TEXTILE DESIGN at the College:

- 1) A 2nd year work experience programme to provide students with practical experience in a large textile manufacturing company in the textile, clothing and footwear industries.
- 2) A 3rd year work experience programme to provide students with practical experience in a large textile manufacturing company in the textile, clothing and footwear industries.

Applicants for both posts are required to be practitioners with a second knowledge of the relevant industry and a minimum of 2 years' experience. The successful candidates will be offered a salary of £10,000 per annum plus benefits. Closing date 31 August 1984.

Institutional Executive

Required to join Middle Eastern Unit in U.S. brokerage firm. Must have experience in trading securities, commodities and financial futures, and have proven contacts with major institutions in the Middle East as well as being familiar with U.S. and German markets. Must speak fluent Arabic and English. Knowledge of French preferred. Salary negotiable.

Reply Box 2204T The Times

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE TRAINING AUTHORITY

Two key posts are offered at the recently established National Health Service Training Authority which is shortly to be released at Bristol and which directs research, education and training policy developments and arrangements for staff within the NHS other than those which are the responsibility of professional bodies.

Director of Research, Education and Training

Salary Scale 33 £17,464 pa - £21,550 pa (exc. L.W.)

The Director is the Chief specialist Educator/trainer in the NHSSTA and is accountable to the Chief Executive for professional leadership and advice over the full range of the Authority's activities. This includes policy development in research, education and training; initiating corporate planning for nationally sponsored training; prioritising, reviewing and evaluating programmes. All NHSSTA research education and training staff will be accountable to the Director, including those of the National Staff Committees and the training centres.

A fundamental role will be to foster close working relationships with Government departments, Health Authorities, Universities and other training agencies.

The successful candidate will have a proven track record in the planning and provision of education and training as well as a distinguished academic background.

Business Manager

Salary Scale 32 £17,046 pa - £21,230 pa (exc. L.W.)

An experienced individual is required to manage the full range of the Authority's activities other than specialist training. The Business Manager will be accountable to the Chief Executive for financial and personnel services, headquarters administration and management information. The successful candidate will be expected to take a lead in information technology.

The principal responsibilities of the postholder are to ensure the effective use of resources and to offer analysis and advice on policy formulation.

Applications are invited from candidates of any managerial discipline with a record of achievement, together with a relevant professional qualification. Consideration will be given to a focused term secondment in suitable circumstances.

Write with full C.V., or telephone for an application form (quoting the post sought), to R. W. Desautels, Chief Executive, National Health Service Training Authority, Royal Eye Hospital Annex, Waterloo Road, London SE1 8XG. Tel: 01-828 8936 Ext 202.

Closing date: Friday, 10th August 1984.

ARE YOU SELLING BUSINESS PRODUCTS? WOULD YOU LIKE TO SELL ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS?

£25K + CAR

Our client, a rapidly growing multinational company is expanding its existing sales force to sell its diverse resources, information graphics and dedicated WP systems. You should live within easy reach of Central London and have a minimum of 2 years' experience selling business-related products. Intensive product training will be given but you should have proof of a white, successful sales background. Please telephone Andy Deane to arrange an interview.

Types

Recruitment Consultants
1a The Parade, Haven Green,
Ealing, London W5
Tel: 01-997 5604/01-991 1734

General Appointments

MOON TURNS BLUE!

A once-in-a-blue-moon opportunity
for computer sales professionals
to join a brand-new national sales network;
to increase their incomes;
and to develop their careers with
a world-wide computer manufacturer.

National Sales Manager

(National Accounts) LONDON
£35,000 O.T.E. High basic salary.
Negotiable guarantee.

The remit for this senior sales management position involves the development of a direct sales operation for major accounts.

The National Sales Manager will be assisted by regional sales managers and will be responsible for the national sales team.

Selecting, motivating and directing this team will be the National Sales Manager's first objective. He or she will be supported by our training and personnel services.

The National Sales Manager will report to the Director of Marketing and will co-ordinate activities with his counterpart on the indirect sales side.

The achievement of realistic sales goals will be a prime responsibility.

Candidates aged 28-40 should have 3 years experience of managing major accounts in the computer systems field, and some IBM experience. The ability to manage through managers will be important as well as being able to cope with the administration of high volume sales.

Other features of this package include a prestige senior executive car (e.g. Saab), BUPA, pension and excellent opportunities for career development.

National Dealer Manager

(National Accounts) LONDON/ROCHESTER
£35,000 O.T.E. High basic salary.
Negotiable guarantee.

The National Dealer Manager will be required to establish and to manage a large national dealer network in the PC field.

The manager's main responsibility will be the attainment of sales goals. In this he or she will be assisted by 5 dealer account managers. Selecting these Dealer Account Managers will be the manager's first job.

The ability to motivate people will be very important in this job. The National Dealer Manager will be responsible for the co-ordination of marketing and engineering support services, dealer principals and the Dealer Account Managers.

Co-ordinating dealership activities with those of the direct sales operation will be vitally important.

Candidates aged 28-45 should have at least 3 years experience of dealer network management for high volume high-tech products, and an understanding of data communications.

They should have at least 2 years experience of managing a team of Dealer Account Managers.

The remuneration package for this post includes a prestige senior executive car (e.g. Saab), BUPA, pension and excellent opportunities for career development.

Ericsson Information Systems UK is a key British member of the worldwide Ericsson information technology and communications group.

Today Ericsson is the fourth largest IT and telecom supplier in the world.

Last year our global sales topped £2 billion. We have 165 companies operating in 110 countries around the world.

We've got what it takes to conceive, design, develop and manufacture a range of world-beating personal computer, workstation and system products.

With the advanced technology and Swedish thoroughness for which Ericsson is famous - this is exactly what we have done.

Our latest system package, the new Ericsson PC, is poised for launch.

The marketing plan is thorough and professional. The dealer network programme is already under way.

A powerful and persuasive advertising campaign is about to break.

Hot-lines for hardware and software customer service have been set up.

All we now need are the sales professionals to make it work.

This is a once-in-a-blue-moon chance to get in on a major national launch right at the beginning.

It's a challenge that demands talent, imagination and determination.

For these above-average qualities we're offering some well above average packages.

Yet in the early stages incomes will be guaranteed at given levels.

And sales targets will be realistic.

If this is your sort of challenge, and Ericsson sounds like your sort of company contact SCR - our advising consultants who will quickly and confidentially assess all applicants.

Call Mike Roberts on 01-935 0671 during office hours, or 01-998 9048 today or weekday evenings up until 9.30 p.m.

ERICSSON

Regional Managers

(National Accounts) LONDON/MANCHESTER/BIRMINGHAM
£30,000 O.T.E. plus 2 litre car.
High basic salary. Negotiable guarantee.

The job of the Regional Managers will be to organise, motivate, and supervise a team of salesmen in PC and workstation sales campaigns directed at large pre-selected accounts.

The Regional Managers' responsibilities include achieving sales goals, developing and maintaining professional sales standards as well as opening-up and developing new accounts.

Candidates aged 26-40 should have at least 2 years experience of managing sales teams for a high technology company in the major national account environment.

These posts also carry a pension and there will be many opportunities for career development.

Sales Consultants

ALL LOCATIONS
£27,000 O.T.E. plus 1.6 GL car.
High basic salary. Negotiable guarantee.

Sales consultants will be responsible for handling a small number of major national accounts for PC and workstation products. Candidates must be sales goal oriented and they must have proved themselves successful at sales development in the major national account environment.

Applicants aged 24-35 should have extensive experience within the computer industry. Sales Consultants hold important positions with Ericsson. There are opportunities to achieve high earnings in the near future as well as excellent career development prospects.

Dealer Account Managers

ALL LOCATIONS
£25,000 O.T.E. plus 1.6 GL car.
High basic salary. Negotiable guarantee.

Ericsson Dealer Account Managers will be responsible for the marketing management of a group of dealers within a geographical area. They must be able to relate to the needs of dealerships, be able to work with and inspire dealer principals and to motivate dealer sales forces.

This is a challenging sales goal oriented job for people with a proven track record in the dealer account management field.

Candidates aged 24-35 must have a sound understanding of the computer industry.

Successful Dealer Account Managers will be able quickly to reach high earning levels, and there will be many opportunities for career development within the Ericsson organisation.

IBM SYSTEMS PROGRAMMERS ARE YOU WORTH £17,000 p.a.?

If you have over two years' IBM Systems Programming experience backed, ideally, with a degree in computing or an allied subject, your next big career step could be to BP, either in Central London or Harlow, Essex.

We need SYSTEMS PROGRAMMERS of varying levels to join our team supporting a growing network of IBM 30XX and 43XX computers running - MVS - JES2 - VM - CMS - IMS - CICS - GDDM - RACF - DMS/OS - AC/VTAM - SNA. The projects you will become involved with are detailed enough to provide constant interest and personal satisfaction within a department dedicated to providing clients world-wide within the BP Group with advice and assistance on all aspects of business, technical and scientific information systems, including software, hardware, operations, planning and communications.

No easy jobs, these. We need only those men or women who enjoy a challenge and expect to be rewarded in career terms for personal commitment and innovation.

Salaries are in the range £10,000 to £16,000 - experience alone deciding the exact figure. The posts in London carry an allowance of £1,360 p.a. and the benefits are those to be expected of an organisation of our ranking.

Write now or telephone for an application form, quoting ref. ISS/T17, to:

Mrs. Joan Wilkerson,
The British Petroleum Company plc,
Britannic House, Moor Lane, London EC2Y 9BU.
Tel: 01-920 3484

Or alternatively ask for David Watson on 01-920 8141 for further information and a confidential discussion.

BP is an equal opportunity employer.



DIRECTOR, TEXTILE TECHNOLOGY

The job

To head one of the three operational groups in our H.Q. Department of Technical and Marketing Services based at Ilkley, West Yorkshire, which supports I.W.S. Branches throughout the world. Duties include the planning and running of a programme of work, mainly in the areas of mechanical and chemical processing, aimed at increasing the efficiency of wool processing and wool product manufacture, improving the performance characteristics of wool and assisting the two product groups, Apparel Products and Interior Textiles, in developing new wool products. He/she will also be responsible for liaison with grower country and other R. & D. laboratories.

The organisation

The International Wool Secretariat is a non-profit making organisation set up and founded by the major wool producing countries of the world to promote the use of wool. It works from mill to retail level in 31 countries to stimulate and satisfy a high level of demand for wool. One of its principal marketing tools is the Woolmark.

The candidate

Ideally the successful candidate will be in the age range 30-50, educated to highest degree level in science, engineering or textiles and have extensive experience at a senior level in industry or a development-orientated work area. He/she will be capable of motivating a group of around 60 staff and handling the complex problems involved in taking a varied range of projects from inception to successful industrial implementation. Considerable international travel is likely.

A salary commensurate with the responsibilities of the job is offered together with a company car. Other conditions of service are as expected of an international organisation.



Application forms are available (tel: 0943 601555); or a full curriculum vitae should be returned to the Administration Manager, International Wool Secretariat, Development Centre, Valley Drive, Ilkley, W. Yorkshire, LS29 8PB.

FINANCIAL DIRECTOR Location - Melbourne, Australia

The Portland House Group is a substantial private corporate group with interests in Australia and Overseas in investment banking, exploration for oil, gas and minerals, bloodstock, property investment and engineering manufacturing.

As a result of restructuring of senior executive duties, the Group wishes to appoint a young (25-40) qualified person to the position of Group Financial Director.

Applicants must be prepared to accept full responsibility for Group accounting and budgetary control and contribute to forward policies.

Applicant should have an active entrepreneurial mind, possess drive and initiative and be orientated towards soundly based expansion.

Formal qualifications in accounting and experience with computers are essential.

A top level salary package will be negotiated plus incentive arrangements.

A representative of the Company will be in London between the 28th July and 2nd August for interviews.

Applicants may telephone Mr S Bratchie for an initial discussion if they wish before making a written application giving full C.V. Please send full particulars to:

S. Bratchie
Lancaster Gate House
47 Lancaster Gate London W2 3NA
Telephone 01-258 3936

Editor

Standard Chartered is one of Britain's largest international banking groups with assets exceeding £28 billion and more than 2,000 offices in over 60 countries. The Bank's Economic Department, which is located in the City, wishes to appoint an experienced Editor for the "Standard Chartered Review", a monthly publication covering economic, financial and political developments in the many countries where the Group operates. The Editor will report to the Group Economic Adviser: responsibilities and

involvement will include maintaining and editing the flow of information from the Group's offices and other sources, commissioning and writing features and company profiles, the selection of illustrations and charts, layout and design in conjunction with the Group's Publication Manager, budgeting and distribution. Applications are invited from candidates who have a sound knowledge of economic and financial affairs as well as experience of editing a monthly or similar journal. Salary will be up to £14,000, according to experience, plus the usual banking benefits. Please write, giving relevant personal data and career history to: Peter Barnes, Recruitment Officer, UK, Personnel Services Department, Standard Chartered Bank PLC, 10 Clements Lane, London EC4N 7AB.

Standard Chartered

Victoria and Albert Museum

Curator of Indian Fine Art

...to specialise in Indian fine art, with particular reference to sculpture. Work will include the identification, cataloguing and labelling of objects; the arrangement, display and general supervision of the collection; answering enquiries from the public; taking part in the departmental programme of publications and advising on acquisitions. The Curator will also play a key role in the planning and installation of permanent exhibition galleries.

Candidates should normally have a degree with 1st or 2nd class honours in an arts subject, but others will be considered if they have specialised and expert knowledge of particular value to the Indian Department. A knowledge of Indian art and culture is essential. Candidates must also possess, or be prepared to acquire, an adequate knowledge of at least one relevant oriental language and a reading knowledge of French and German.

Salary (under review): as Curator Grade C £12,325-£17,905, or Curator Grade D £10,720-£13,765, or Curator Grade E £9,005-£11,465 or Curator Grade F £7,035-£9,335. Level of appointment and starting salary according to qualifications and experience.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 17 August 1984) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 68551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref. G(27)382.

An equal opportunity employer

Group Managing Director Blantyre Printing & Publishing Co. Ltd. Malawi

Applications are invited for the position of Group Managing Director of a long-established, profitable and developing group in Malawi. Activities include printing and packaging, conversion, factories, paper and stationery, merchandising, daily and weekly newspapers, retail stationery and bookshops, office equipment and supplies, general publishing and an advertising agency.

A large technical expansion project is in progress in the printing division.

The ideal candidate will have a sound knowledge of the printing and allied industries and a successful record including corporate group management, budgeting, financial control, long-term planning and labour relations. Preference will be given to

those with top management experience in an African company.

Salary and benefits will be commensurate with this important appointment. Service contract two and a half years. 25% gratuity on gross earnings payable at completion of contract (currently non-taxable). One month's overseas leave for each year of service. Company house and car.

Please write in confidence, enclosing career details and quoting reference 6092/T, to E. M. Nell, Executive Selection Division, Pearl Marwick Mitchell & Co., 165 Queen Victoria St., Blackfriars, London EC4V 3PD.



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Precious metals company, Central London, seeks an Assistant in the International Dealing Room. No experience necessary, but must be quick, numerate and aware. Economics graduate preferred. Age not over 23. Start immediately.

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ACCOUNTS CLERK

The Government of Alberta require an Accounts Clerk to handle computerised accounts, small payroll and general accounting functions. Minimum 1 year's experience and A level education essential. Salary £7,000 pa. 4 weeks' holiday. Season ticket loan available. CVs to:

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The Times guide to career choice

How important is design?

In the last year design has become fashionable in business circles. Mrs Thatcher, with her personal commitment to design, has played an important part in its promotion, starting with a Downing Street design seminar and more recently through the Department of Industry's Design for Profit scheme aimed at encouraging companies to make use of designers.

The failure in British business is considered, at least in part, to be due to its failure to make use of designers. Britain, with its world renowned design education system and some of the world's best designers, has proved unable to use these talents within British business.

British businessmen, it seems, are unable to recognize the value of design. This is not surprising for design barely figures in most management courses and John Wakeham, Minister of State at the Treasury, said that it ought to be inconceivable for someone doing a business studies course not to spend part of that course considering design - and we are very far from that state of affairs.

In other words, all managers need to be aware of what design is and how to use design within their company. However, the use of design and its implementation is in itself a specialized role - that of design management.

According to Peter Gorb, head of the design management unit at the London Business School, effective management of design suffers from a culture gap. Most managers still view design as something airy fairy, carried out by academic failures. Designers are supposedly less well endowed with skills in numeracy and literacy, their visual skills are very much second best, thought to be, by and large, for ephemeral and trivial ends.

Business culture puts the emphasis on numeracy and literacy, but fails to appreciate the use of the ability to visualize and reproduce what is seen. It also ignores that design is concerned with the use of analogies (for example, plans and models), although the ability to make use of analogies is central to effective management.

Design is about doing, and perhaps some of the current industrial malaise stems from a management preference for thought rather than action. Designers themselves are also responsible for the lack of interest shown by British business.

Many designers fail to appreciate commercial realities and also do not understand how to work within a company structure. Many suffer from assuming that designers alone are creative, and fail to understand the creativity of other disciplines. The culture gap between designers and managers has resulted in the emergence of a relatively new discipline - design management, which attempts to maximise the use of designers and their talents for the achievement of company ends.

Design management is not, as its name might suggest, teaching design

Corinne Julius asks why British business looks with such a wary eye at the value of specialised design

ers how to manage their practices, nor how to teach designers to communicate with the commercial world. Rather it is the planning and control of the design function within an organisation.

Design management is part of the interdisciplinary resources... to be employed in making commercial decisions.

What then is design? In part it is a planning process for products - be it a consumer item, an environment or a means of communicating information. Design is not just a creative process, but involves working within the constraints and opportunities of the manufacturing and marketing functions. It is a problem - solving activity which can make a contribution to profits.

Four major areas where design really works

The design function in any organization may cover any one or more of four major areas and the design manager is responsible for all four. In the majority of manufacturing companies the product is a primary concern for most managers. Designers are concerned with the planning and development of a product in conjunction with the research, production, marketing and sales departments.

The second area of design involvement is the environmental one - the context in which the effective purpose of the organisation (the manufacture of products, or provision of services) can be most efficiently achieved. The environment affects those who work in it, but also embodies how an organisation invites others to see it - for example in retailing or banking.

Communication is the third area for design - information design is the way that organizational purposes are controlled and communicated, for example promotional literature, and management information systems. As this aspect of design is the most familiar, it is what many managers perceive design to be.

The fourth area is that of corporate identity design, in which design is used to describe the organization, by investigating and improving the ways in which not only the products, but the environments in which they are produced, and the information systems which are used to communicate about both are made to cohere and reinforce the corporate personality.

Design management is concerned with the effective use of all the different aspects of design within an

organisation. To Wally Olins, a senior partner of Wally Olins, one of Britain's (and the world's) best known design practices, anyone starting out in design management is "on to a good thing".

While there are relatively few openings for design managers at present, Wally Olins feels that companies are rapidly beginning to appreciate the commercial success that design management can bring.

He cites Burtons who have greatly increased their market share since the employment of a major design practice to define their corporate identity. Similarly, the Habitat/Moody group clearly believe in design management and the implementation of their design policy has helped to boost profits by 33 per cent in the last year.

Sir Terence Conran is, by training, a designer and most design managers have a background in design. Jane Priestman of the British Airport Authority, one of Britain's most influential design managers is on record as thinking that future design managers are likely to continue to be designers or at least creative individuals.

Others, like Peter Gorb of the London Business School, would not agree. Peter Gorb sees the role of design manager as a management function, and design managers as coming from some form of business background.

Most of today's design managers have learned at work. However, since 1982 the London Business School has introduced a design management element, not only into its MBA programme, but also into courses for senior managers. Their design management courses are unique and are being monitored with interest here and abroad.

Design managers now are employed in both the state and private sectors. For example, British Airways has a strong design management team and so does the Post Office.

Wally Olins cites the army as a good example of design management. While not necessarily praising the aesthetics of their design programme, he feels it reflects a strong, planned, coherent image in everything it produces, from uniform to publicity materials. Many larger private corporations, such as Olivetti, employ design managers and smaller organizations are following suit.

Jobs for design managers are advertised in the specialist design and media press, occasionally under such names as identity or image managers. In seeking new openings, Wally Olins recommends the direct approach. He suggests looking at companies using design management successfully and then approaching their less profitable competitors to point out why their rivals have done so well and at the same time asking for a job.

● MARKETPLACE last Thursday was by Philip Schofield

General Appointments

YOUNG TALENTED PROFESSIONALS

The Stock Exchange is at the centre of the UK securities industry and provides the mechanism for the issue of new securities, both public and corporate, and the trading of existing ones.

Our Quotations Department has major executive responsibilities which include all aspects of listing of companies on The Stock Exchange and entry to the Unlisted Securities Market, control of dealings in unlisted securities, receipt and dissemination of company news, investigations into dealings and related policy matters.

We have now entered an era of rapid evolution and wish to make a number of appointments to strengthen the Department.

You have probably obtained a good degree or have recently qualified professionally. The particular discipline is

not important, although it is likely that **LAWYERS, ACCOUNTANTS, CHARTERED SECRETARIES OR BUSINESS SCHOOL GRADUATES**

would find the work stimulating and challenging. In addition to your formal qualifications you would be expected to demonstrate good communication skills and to possess qualities such as adaptability, forward thinking and the ability to work under pressure on your own initiative.

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International financial group with offices in London and the Continent seeks Attorney with maritime experience to prepare documentation in-house.

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In addition to a competitive salary, benefits will also include a company car, BUPA, a non-contributory pension scheme and free life assurance.

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Publications Manager

Standard Chartered is one of Britain's largest international banking groups with assets exceeding £28 billion and with more than 2,000 offices in over 60 countries.

The Group's Information Department, which is located in the City, wishes to appoint an experienced Publications Manager who will be responsible for the design and publication of a wide range of publications including staff magazines, business guides, the annual report, reports to staff, financial brochures and the Group's Economic Review.

The post, which is a new one, will carry responsibility for advising the Group's subsidiaries, associate and overseas offices on all aspects of publications

work and for managing the Head Office publications budget. The publications section has a staff complement of five and the Publications Manager will be responsible to the Director of Information. Applications are invited from candidates aged 30-45 who have gained wide experience in writing, designing, printing, publishing and budgeting. Salary will be up to £18,000 according to experience, plus the usual banking benefits. Please write, giving relevant personal data and career history to: Peter Barnes, Recruitment Officer, U.K. Personnel Services Department, Standard Chartered Bank PLC, 10 Clements Lane, London EC4N 7AB.

Standard Chartered



APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR GENERAL

The Federation is seeking a successor to Mr L. A. Woodburn-Bamberger who is retiring on December 31, 1984.

Persons interested in being considered for this office are invited to write, in confidence, to the President at Clareville House, Whitcomb Street, London, WC2H 7DL, not later than August 12, 1984.

THE TIMBER TRADE FEDERATION

Sales training for graduates in the world of international publishing (London based)

Britain's major paperback book producers, the Richard Clay Group, offer a unique opportunity for graduates of any discipline to undertake a year's training in book production prior to being appointed to their professional, widely travelled, London based sales team.

Candidates, who should also be able to demonstrate achievement outside the academic field, must possess the highest

order of both communication skills and personal presentation. A starting salary of £8,250 will be paid whilst training and will significantly increase on first appointment. The company offers a most interesting future and excellent working conditions. Telephone Ann Shopland on (0603) 619287 for an application form.

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This commitment and expansion has created the need to appoint a Regional Account Manager, located in the Midlands, to hold territory responsibility for a major BT region.

This position calls for an individual of proven major account selling ability who has gained experience in the Communications, Data or Business Systems industry. It would also be

an advantage, although not essential, if this experience had taken candidates sufficiently close to British Telecom to give them an understanding of its structure.

A high basic salary of c.£17,000 is offered which, together with commission, is expected to generate on-target earnings of about £23,000 in the first year. In addition the company offers a choice of high quality car plus the usual range of fringe benefits associated with a job of this importance.

Candidates of either sex should apply in confidence quoting ref. 535/T to: Johnson Wilson - Management Search, Clarendon House, 33 Hyde Street, Winchester, Hampshire SO22 7DX or telephone (0962) 53319 (24 hour service).

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Industrial Post Doctoral Fellowships

The Metals Research Laboratories of Olin Corporation, a major U.S. metals facility in New Haven, Connecticut, has several openings for recent Ph.D. graduates in metallurgy or materials science.

These Industrial Fellowships are in process metallurgy, solidification, physical metallurgy, chemical metallurgy and ceramics. Appointments will be for a maximum of 2 years at a stipend of \$34,000 per annum. Relocation and travel expenses to and from the U.S.A. will be provided.

A fellowship is also open for physicist or metallurgist with Post-Doctoral experience in analytical electron microscopy. A fully equipped Philips 620 A.E.S. and complementary SEM and TEM facilities are available.

Applications with curriculum vitae, including school and undergraduate performance, academic honours, graduation data, reprints of publications, if any, together with three personal references should be submitted no later than August 8th to: FCB Direct, 84 Baker Street, London, W1M 0AE. Qualified candidates will be contacted and scheduled for interviews during August/September in England.

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ANIMAL DISEASES RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

SCIENTIFIC DIRECTOR

Applications are invited for the post of Scientific Director of the Association located at Moredun Research Institute, Edinburgh.

The Association is funded by an annual grant from the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland and forms part of the Agricultural and Food Research Service. This service includes four Institutes concerned with research on the diseases of farm animals and the Moredun Institute has particular responsibility for research into infectious diseases of sheep and some work with cattle.

Applicants should preferably have a veterinary qualification, must have experience in veterinary research and administrative experience.

Salary scale presently £19,243 to £23,159 - non contributory superannuation scheme. There is an equal opportunities post. Assistance may be given with relocation expenses to the successful candidate.

Applications giving the names and addresses of 3 referees should be sent to the Secretary, Animal Diseases Research Association, Moredun Research Institute, 408 Gilmerton Road, Edinburgh, EH17 7JH from whom further particulars may be obtained.

Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries: Peter Dear and Peter Davale

BBC 1

6.00 Cee-fax AM.
6.30 Breakfast Time with Frank Smith and Saffron Scott. News from Debbie Rick at 6.50, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours; sport at 8.40 and 7.40; weather and traffic at 8.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; programme choice at 8.55; a review of the morning newspapers at 9.00; and horoscopes at 9.30; medical advice and cookery hints between 9.30 and 9.00.

9.00 Outgoing. Penny Morrell with the eighth programme in her series on the art of modern quilting discusses Group-Made Quilts. 9.25 Animal Magic and Terry Nudkins with the season. 9.50 Jackanory. Donald Douglas reads part four of *The Spooky* (1). 10.05 Why Don't You...? Children from Belfast with entertaining ideas for their mainland counterparts (1). 10.30 Play School (1).

10.55 Cricket: Fourth Test. Peter West introduces the first morning's action in the match between England and the West Indies at Old Trafford.

1.05 News After Noon with Richard Whitmore and Frances Coverdale. 1.22 Regional News (London and SE only). Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles. 1.25 Personal Pat (1).

1.40 Cricket: Fourth Test. Further coverage of the first day's play at Old Trafford. 4.16 Regional news (not London).

4.20 Play School, presented by Stuart Bradley. 4.40 Huckleberry Finn and his Friends. Episode 17 of the children's series based on the books by Mark Twain (1).

5.05 John Craven's Newsround. 5.10 We Are the Champions. Inter-school sports competition from Walslow Leisure Centre between Our Lady's High School, Motown, Toppin School, Cornwall, and St Nicholas' High School, Cambridgeshire.

5.40 Sixty Minutes.
6.00 The Pink Panther Show. Three cartoons (1).

7.00 Junior Kick Start. The finals of the Lombard Trophy. A competition between two teams.

7.25 Top of the Pops introduced by Dave Lee Travis and Janice Long.

8.00 Hi-De-Hi Joe Mepkin commissions a statue of himself with the intention of having it at his holiday camp. He gives his orders on how the unveiling ceremony should take place - but events don't go as planned (1) (Cee-fax title page 170).

8.30 The Perms. The second in the series of programmes tracing the ups and downs of haircuts on their basic training (1).

9.00 News with Nicholas Witchell.
9.25 "Olympic" Challenge. Highlights from last month's 1984 International Games for the Disabled, held on Long Island, New York.

10.10 Solo. With the 23,000 she performs in the world her late aunt, Gemma decide to buy a car - with the help of Sebastian (Cee-fax title page 170).

10.40 Whicker's World. In this edition Alan Whicker recalls some of his TV highlights including the Australian with the "least effort" philosophy; drugs raid with the Singapore police; and the odd case of the Hadam street numbers (1).

11.30 Can You Avoid Cancer? The last in the preventive series, presented by Dr Michael O'Donnell.

11.45 News headlines and weather.
11.50 Open University: Chemistry: Ferrocenes. Ends at 12.15.

TV-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain, presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. News with Elaine Lowth at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; sport at 8.40 and 7.30; Cee-fax; Blake's star turn at 8.45 and 8.15; co-ordinates at 8.50 and 8.55; Chase and Dave pop video at 8.54 and 7.55; the day's anniversaries at 7.05 and 8.55; cartoon at 7.55; guests of the day, Chase and Dave at 7.42; reviews of the time Canoeboat Run II and Star Trek III at 8.56; Follow Trek in Liverpool at 9.00.

9.25 Theme news headlines followed by Suzanne Street. 10.25 Treasure Island. An animated version of Robert Louis Stevenson's adventure story, with animals playing the characters. 11.15 The Little Rascals in Three Smart Boys. The fourth documentary in the five-part series deals with the technology industry. 11.50 Cartoon Time.

12.00 Haggerty Haggerty. George Cole with another tale of the friendly witch. 12.10 Taylor and Co. For the very young. 12.30 The Sunbats. The fourth documentary in the five-part series deals with the technology industry. 11.50 Cartoon Time.

1.05 News. 1.20 Theme news. 1.30 Glenore. Serial set in rural Ireland. 2.00 Crown Court: Personal Guard. Covering the trial of the man accused of murdering a woman.

2.30 Strangers. Part one of the two-part story, Charlie's Brother's Birthday, in which a number of children are kidnapped. 3.30 Sons and Daughters. (1). 3.30 Sons and Daughters.

4.00 Haggerty Haggerty. A repeat of the programme shown at noon. 4.15 The Moonlight. David Taylor and David Lodge lead the first day's play in the match between England and the West Indies at Old Trafford.

4.20 Play School, presented by Stuart Bradley. 4.40 Huckleberry Finn and his Friends. Episode 17 of the children's series based on the books by Mark Twain (1).

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11.45 News headlines and weather.
11.50 Open University: Chemistry: Ferrocenes. Ends at 12.15.

Peter Donohoe: tonight's Prom (Radio 3, 7.30 pm)

6.00 Open University: Medicine and Health. 6.30 Instrumentation: Signals and Noise. 6.55 Energy Resources: Coal. 7.30 Inner City Story: 1. 7.45 Concert Under Stress. Ends at 8.10.

8.00 Cee-fax.
8.20 World Bowls and Cricket: Fourth Test. Action from the first day's play at Old Trafford.

8.30 News. 8.45 News. 9.00 News. 9.15 News. 9.30 News. 9.45 News. 10.00 News. 10.15 News. 10.30 News. 10.45 News. 11.00 News. 11.15 News. 11.30 News. 11.45 News. 12.00 News. 12.15 News. 12.30 News. 12.45 News. 1.00 News. 1.15 News. 1.30 News. 1.45 News. 2.00 News. 2.15 News. 2.30 News. 2.45 News. 3.00 News. 3.15 News. 3.30 News. 3.45 News. 4.00 News. 4.15 News. 4.30 News. 4.45 News. 5.00 News. 5.15 News. 5.30 News. 5.45 News. 6.00 News. 6.15 News. 6.30 News. 6.45 News. 7.00 News. 7.15 News. 7.30 News. 7.45 News. 8.00 News. 8.15 News. 8.30 News. 8.45 News. 9.00 News. 9.15 News. 9.30 News. 9.45 News. 10.00 News. 10.15 News. 10.30 News. 10.45 News. 11.00 News. 11.15 News. 11.30 News. 11.45 News. 12.00 News. 12.15 News. 12.30 News. 12.45 News. 1.00 News. 1.15 News. 1.30 News. 1.45 News. 2.00 News. 2.15 News. 2.30 News. 2.45 News. 3.00 News. 3.15 News. 3.30 News. 3.45 News. 4.00 News. 4.15 News. 4.30 News. 4.45 News. 5.00 News. 5.15 News. 5.30 News. 5.45 News. 6.00 News. 6.15 News. 6.30 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Staffs of Services chiefs to be halved

By Richard Evans

The backroom staff of Britain's army, navy and air chiefs is to be cut by more than half, MPs were told yesterday.

Sir Clive Whitmore, permanent Under Secretary at the Ministry of Defence, told the Commons Defence Select Committee that of the 470 officers affected by the reorganization who worked for the single service chiefs, about 200 will remain.

Most of the others will be transferred to the strengthened Central Defence staff as envisaged in the reorganization plans announced by Mr Michael Heseltine, the Secretary of State for Defence, last week. But Mr Heseltine told MPs that controversy still existed about the precise numbers of staff to remain with the service chiefs.

Field Marshal Sir Edwin Bramall, Chief of the Defence Staff, said the staff, although minimal, would be adequate for the job. It would enable the service chiefs to manage and run their services within the policies laid down by the centre.

Key appointments to the revamped Central Defence staff would be resolved "within a matter of days" Mr Heseltine said. Together with Field Marshal Bramall he explained for the first time in public the fears of the single service chiefs about the shake-up.

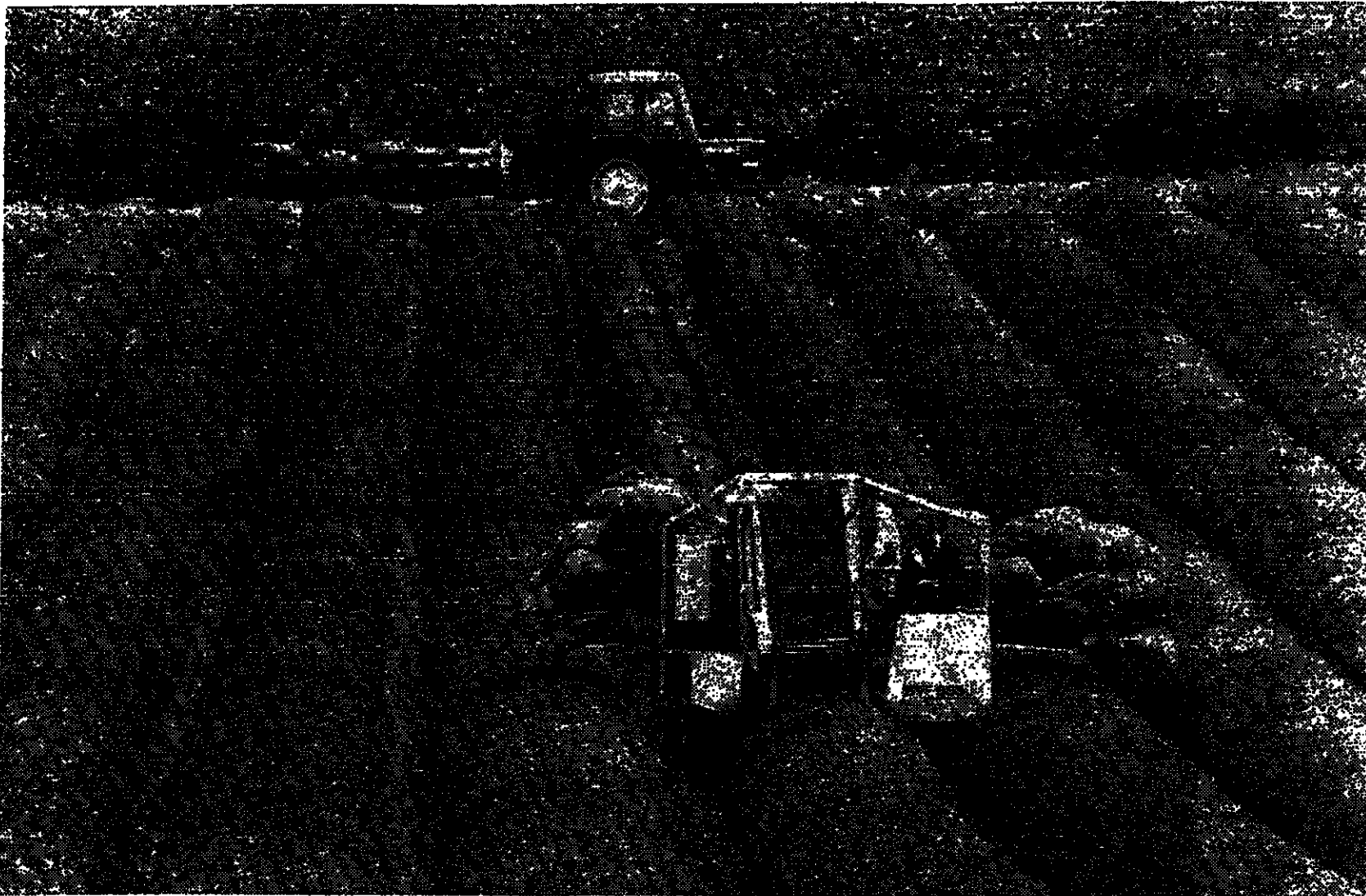
They were concerned that the tilt in favour of strengthening the central staff would diminish their own status and influence to the point where over a long period they could not deliver the morale of their services or ensure they had the weapons they needed, so affecting their preparedness for any future conflict.

Field Marshal Bramall told MPs the Prime Minister had assured the service chiefs of the "very great importance" she attached to their advice, individually and collectively. "We are now completely confident we can make the new proposals work and have every intention of doing so."

Mr Heseltine said: "There is no question of diminishing the role or influence of single service chiefs and therefore the concepts of them gradually withering on the vine is not one that should be profitably explored."

He defended his decision to go ahead with the reorganization although he accepted it was controversial.

Lavender harvesting then and now



Tebbit orders warship builders to be sold

Continued from page 1

It also includes Barclay Curle of Glasgow which makes missile launchers. Brooke Marine of Lowestoft, the patrol boat company which is likely to be the subject of a management buy-out, and Warship Design Services of Bath, which specializes in submarine design.

The BS corporate plan for the four years up to 1988, published yesterday but with substantial deletions on the grounds of commercial confidentiality, says a team from the Ministry of Defence, headed by the former defence secretary, Sir John Nott, is now drawing up detailed financial information on the warship yards.

Mr Tebbit said that continuation of the BS losses, which for the year to the end of March included £100m attrib-

utable to four offshore contracts, and were boosted to £232m by redundancy and closure costs, could not be accepted and he welcomed Mr Day's assurance that they would not be repeated. The corporation was well aware that the key to its future depended on improving the efficiency of production of merchant ships.

BS plans to be able to accept orders at a rate of up to 210,000 compensated gross registered tons (cgrt) a year compared with the 117,000 cgrt won in 1983-84.

Since last September, BS has sold or closed seven subsidiaries and sale of the two remaining ship repair companies, particularly Falmouth Shiprepair, and the general engineering interests, is imminent. Added to the warship yards sale, this will reduce BS to its merchant shipbuilding core, employing under 15,000.

Kinnock's victory over left

Continued from page 1

unconditional removal of all United States nuclear weapons and nuclear bases from British soil or waters, and the unconditional "decommissioning" of Polaris, a word which leaves scope for further argument over timing and practicalities.

There was an unsuccessful rear-guard action by the left to weaken a cautionary passage, which stated that the party's aim of reducing defence spending to the average level of that of Britain's European allies, could not be achieved in the lifetime of a single parliament without major cuts in conventional forces which we do not recommend.

Mr Kinnock, interviewed later on Independent Television News, said the statement was not unilateralist.

It is lavender harvest time on the 100 acres of the family business, Norfolk Lavender, at Heacham, north of King's Lynn. The business, established in 1932 is the largest grower and distiller of lavender in Britain. The machine picking the lavender (above) was designed by Norfolk Lavender and is being driven by Mr Paul Harvey an agricultural contractor accompanied by his dog Fred. Hand picking ended in 1966 and the photograph below, taken in 1948, shows Brynild Buckler harvesting the old way. The lavender is pressed and distilled for its oil and used for cosmetic



Letter from Los Angeles

The greatest show in mankind's history

The Olympic athletes will start parading into the huge Coliseum here at 4.30pm on Saturday. It will take them a full two hours for the 9,000 to march round the stadium.

At precisely 7pm President Reagan will deliver the following 16 words to open the Olympics: "I declare open the Games of Los Angeles, celebrating the twenty-third Olympiad of the modern era."

His words will be accompanied by an Olympic fanfare composed by John Williams, who wrote the music for films such as *E.T.*, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, and *Superman*.

The 100-member symphony orchestra will play the Olympic hymn, a 1,000-voice choir will sing, the Olympic flag will wave in the breeze, and a lone torch bearer will run into the stadium in front of more than 100,000 spectators, up the steps to the Podium and light the Olympic flame. Then 5,000 pigeons will fly across the sky, blotting out what remains of the southern California sun.

David Holper, the producer, who brought epic such as *Rise and Fall of the Third Reich*, *Roots* and *The Thornbirds* to television, is choreographer and chief architect of what must surely be the most expensive two-night stand in the history of show business.

It is costing more than \$1 (£5.38) for the opening ceremonies and the closing spectacular on August 12, and Mr Wolper says: "The opening ceremonies set the tone for the Games. If they are a failure, it's a sort of dowry before you start. People expect it to be spectacular because Hollywood is doing it, and we certainly should be able to do it better than Montreal or any other city. It is going to be majestic and inspirational."

The goose pimples promised by Mr Wolper pop out all over the place just through reading about it, and the expected 2.5 billion television viewers who will be tuned in as the ceremonies are broadcast round the world by satellite are sure to get their money's worth.

But what about the 1.4 million visitors who will be in Los Angeles for the Games. Are they ready for Los Angeles - and, perhaps more important, is the city ready for them?

New murals on the freeway are shining and colourful. Streets and freeways are decorated with pasted-on flags and signs. Houses are getting new coats of paint and parks are showing Olympic symbols executed in penumbras on every piece of greenward. The prostitutes are being forced out of town - and the pickpockets are coming in. The drunks are being herded off Skid Row pavements.

As if to reinforce everybody's worst fears, for the past few weeks the city has boiled in record smog, laden heat, and already traffic is snarling. Those pessimists who predicted chaos, with another 300,000 rental cars on the highways during the Games fortnight, are getting ready to say: "I told you so."

There is much talk of security, of villages resembling armed camps, of jurisdictional squabbles between Los Angeles police and the FBI who have squads ready to cope with hijacking or hostage-taking. But for the rest, the formula for the actual Games, at nearly 30 sites around sprawling southern California, is pretty much set.

Mr Tommy Walker, the co-producer of the ceremonies, who used to work at Disneyland, calls it the greatest show in the history of mankind. It will have the biggest light show in the world, the largest number of competing athletes (even without the Russians, the East Germans, Cubans and other boycotting nations), the world's biggest marching band, the biggest budget, and the largest cast of more than 12,000.

The other day the groundsman at the freshly renovated Coliseum telephoned Mr Wolper to object to the damage all those marching feet would do to his grass. "I asked him if he expected them to walk on their hands," replied the amused producer.

Only Hollywood, merging with the spirit of the international games in tribute to the private enterprise Olympics, could even have contemplated such a spectacle. But competitors and spectators will never have seen its like before. They will either wallow in the spectacle or consider it the ultimate in excessive bad taste.

Ivor Daniel

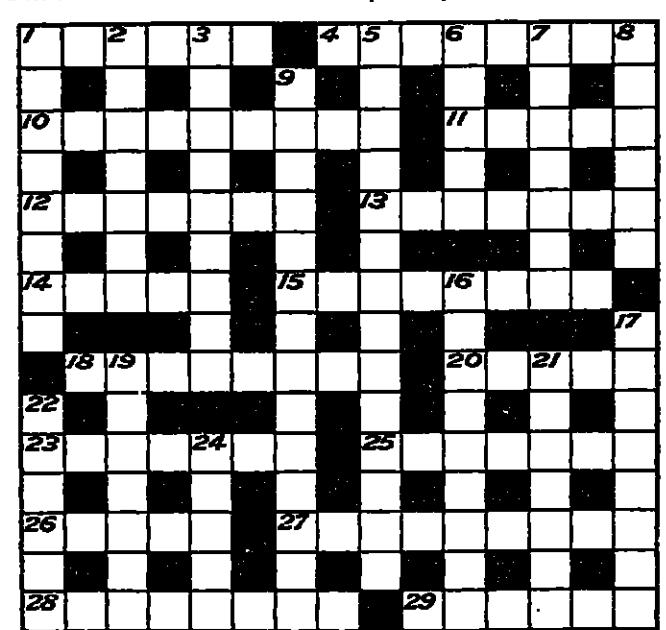
THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements
The Prince of Wales, Patron, the Royal Tournament, accompanied by the Princess of Wales, attends a performance of the Royal Tournament, Ears Court, London, 7.20.
Princess Anne presents the prizes to the Winning Dog Handler teams of the Army (UK) Dog Trials 1984 at the Royal Army Veterinary Corps Centre, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, 11.30.
Princess Margaret attends a Gala Show at Grosvenor House in aid of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, of which Her Royal Highness is President, 7.40.
The Duke of Gloucester, Colonel-in-Chief, the Gloucester Regiment, visits the 1st Battalion to mark Salamanca Day, at Lucknow of the Army (UK) Dog Trials 1984 at the Royal Army Veterinary Corps Centre, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, 11.30.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,492

This puzzle was solved within 30 minutes by 50 per cent of the competitors at this year's Bristol regional final of the Collins Dictionaries Times Crossword Championship.



- ACROSS
- 1 Rock-bottom hit in the mad-house (6).
 - 4 Tooth starts to produce roots in place of one extracted (8).
 - 10 Choosing (and about time too!) a course of action (9).
 - 11 Arrange to meet and go by road (5).
 - 12 God gets enmeshed next (7).
 - 13 Article we, a little, find frightening (7).
 - 14 Jog around the middle of Margaret with nothing on... (5).
 - 15 ...and see 200 different rhythms (8).
 - 18 Venial sin, a bit central to belief (5,3).
 - 20 Show, rather than conceal, anger (5).
 - 23 Master Brown has to leave early in the morning (7).
 - 25 In front of Peter, absolutely impassive (7).
 - 26 Complete to a T? All bar one (5).
 - 27 Eloquent rambling without grace (9).
 - 28 Responsible for a chip off the old block (8).
 - 29 Retired, it appears in musical still (6).
- DOWN
- 1 Post's arm (8).
 - 2 Order I'd heard to become Conservative (3-4).

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 8

Princess Alexandra attends the final night of the Carl Fleish International Violin Competition in Barbican Hall, London and presents the prizes, 6.20.

New exhibitions
Paintings and sculptures by seven members of the Manchester Academy of Fine Art, Ginnel Gallery, 16 Lloyd Street, Manchester: Mon to Fri 9 to 5, Thur 9 to 8, Sat and Sun closed. (ends Aug 31).
Organ recital by Brian Williams, St Augustine's Church, Penarth, 1.05.
An Evening with Cleo Laine and the John Dankworth Quintet, the Civic Hall, Ebbw Vale, 8.
The Concert by the / Cambridge County Youth Orchestra, Isle of Ely College, Wisbech, 7.30pm.

Talks, lectures
Medieval Food, Rutland County Museum, Catmos Street, Oakham, 10 and 2.

Anniversaries
Births: John Field, pianist and composer, Dublin, 1782; George Bernard Shaw, Dublin, 1856; Carl Jung, Kesswil, Switzerland, 1875; André Malraux, Elbeuf, France, 1885; Aldous Huxley, Godalming, Surrey, 1894; George Bernard Shaw at Oulton Broad, Norfolk, 1881.

Parliament today
Commons (2.30): Debate on motion for summer adjournment.
Lords (3): Police and Criminal Evidence Bill, report, second day.

Portfolio
Portfolio - how to play Monday-Saturday record your daily Portfolio total.
Add these together to determine your weekly Portfolio total.
If you total matches the published weekly dividend figure you have won outright or a share of the prize money stated for that week, and must claim your prize as instructed below.

How to claim
Telephone The Times Portfolio claims line 0254-53272 between 10.00 am and 3.30 pm, on the day your dividend is paid. The Times Portfolio Division. No claims can be accepted outside these hours.

Prizes
If you are unable to telephone someone else for you, send in the instructions on the reverse side. These cards are not invalid for failure to contact the claims office for any reason within the stated hours.

Prizes
The above instructions are applicable to both daily and weekly dividend claims.

Some Times Portfolio cards include minor prizes. The Games Index is not affected and will continue to be played in exactly the same way as before.

Rules will appear again in Friday's paper.

New books - paperback

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:
An Innocent Millionaire, novel by Stephen Viscnacy (Corgi, £2.50).
In Ethiopia with a Rifle, by David Murphy (Century Travellers, £4.95).
The Dragon Wales, China and the West, 1753-1911, by Christopher Hibbert (Penguin, £4.50).
The Order of the Garter, by Michael Hurd (Oxford, £4.50).
The Personal History of Samuel Johnson, by Christopher Hibbert (Penguin, £3.95).
The Royal Game and Other Stories, by Stefan Zweig (Penguin, £2.95).
The Royal Blacksmith, A Man of Power, and The Great Occasion, three novels by Isabel Colegate (Penguin, £4.95).
Wild Wales, by George Borrow, introduction by Viscount Trenchard (Century Travellers, £5.95).
Women First, the Female Tradition in English Physical Education, 1880-1980 by Sheila Fletcher (Athlone Press, £5.95).

Olympicline

British Telecom is establishing an Olympicline throughout the Games which will provide up-to-the-minute news and results by phone. It will be regularly updated throughout the night as results come in. The service will include major results and information about the progress of British competitors. Olympic line will start at 5 pm on Sunday July 29. The numbers to ring are:

London 01-244 8070
Manchester 061-244 8070
Liverpool 051-244 8070
Birmingham 021-244 8070
Cardiff 01-244 8070
Edinburgh 01-244 8070
Glasgow 01-244 8070
Sheffield 01-244 8070
Belfast 01-244 8070
Blackburn 01-244 8070

Pollen forecast

Aberdeen med 3 to 6 pm
Belfast low 3 to 6 pm
Birmingham low 3 to 6 pm
Blackburn low 3 to 6 pm
Bristol low 3 to 6 pm
Cardiff low 3 to 6 pm
Chester low 3 to 6 pm
Dundee low 3 to 6 pm
Edinburgh low 3 to 6 pm
Exeter low 3 to 6 pm
Glasgow low 3 to 6 pm
Hull low 3 to 6 pm
Leeds low 3 to 6 pm
Loughborough low 3 to 6 pm
London low 3 to 6 pm
Manchester low 3 to 6 pm
Middlesbrough low 3 to 6 pm
Newcastle low 3 to 6 pm
Nottingham low 3 to 6 pm
Preston low 3 to 6 pm
Reading low 3 to 6 pm
Sheffield low 3 to 6 pm
Southampton low 3 to 6 pm
Sunderland low 3 to 6 pm
Swansea low 3 to 6 pm
Telford low 3 to 6 pm
Warrington low 3 to 6 pm
Widnes low 3 to 6 pm
Wolverhampton low 3 to 6 pm
Wrexham low 3 to 6 pm
York low 3 to 6 pm

The pound

Australia \$ 1.59
Austria S 1.59
Belgium B 1.59
Canada C 1.59
Denmark D 1.59
France F 1.59
Germany G 1.59
Greece Dr 1.59
Hong Kong H 1.59
Italy L 1.59
Japan Y 1.59
Netherlands N 1.59
Norway K 1.59
Portugal P 1.59
South Africa R 1.59
Spain Ps 1.59
Sweden S 1.59
Switzerland S 1.59
USA \$ 1.59
Yugoslavia D 1.59

The papers

The Wall Street Journal comments on the Arab trade boycott against Israel, pointing out that the British may be the worst collaborators. "Mandates at the Foreign Office actually sign documents 'witnessing' the negative certificates of origin, which pledge that no part of the goods was made in Israel." It says, adding "even aside from the damage to the principle of free trade and to the Western alliance, there's a cost to giving in to blackmail... The Common Market could be true to its own free-trade constitution by passing a Europe-wide law against the Arab boycott. This would help Israel, the Middle East's link with democracy, and we suspect boycotting the boycott wouldn't do the Europeans any harm, materially or spiritually."

Retail Price Index 351.9. London: The FT Index closed 6.7 up at 770.2.

Weather

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6am to midnight

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